

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 120

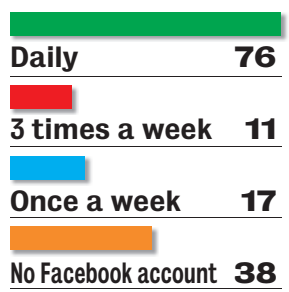
MONDAY MAY 23, 2011

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



POLL RESULTS

How often do you check your Facebook account?



Sunday, May 22, 2011

INSIDE



Drills Champion

The 65-member Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Battalion emerged overall winner of the 9th Annual Inter-Island Drill Competition.

Local...Page 6



Apocalypse Now

They spent months warning the world of the apocalypse, some giving away earthly belongings or draining their savings accounts.

Nation...Page 15



Top Barista

His intoxicating concoction dubbed "Marias Punch" earned Marlon Pineda the championship in this year's "Burnett's Flavored Vodka Challenge."

Life & Style...Page 19

Haag, Stearns are SIS outstanding graduates. PAGE 2
NMC budget slashed by 7.5 percent. PAGE 3

Residents see opportunities amid tough times

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

While many businesses are hurting, small business owner Manny Camacho Borja, 59, said his sales have gone up by some 300 percent since people have started buying lower-priced merchandise such as cooked food, fresh vegetables, and local appetizers.

» Details on govt collections, spending in first half of FY 2011

"When the economy is down, I am enjoying more sales. We sell cheap stuff but with good quality, and that's what people are buying these days. They are trying to save. They can have breakfast for \$2 here, instead of going to restaurants," Borja said, as he was tending to his booth at the Sabalu Market in Susupe on Saturday morning.

In general, CNMI businesses' sales were down, except for a few like Borja, who owns M2 Enterprises.

See RESIDENTS on Page 4



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Katherine Mae Cepeda Pangelinan Mersai, left, one of the recipients of the Northern Marianas College's academic awards, delivers a speech during NMC's commencement exercises at the Marianas High School Gymnasium on Saturday afternoon. Also on stage are, from left, NMC dean of Academic Programs and Services Barbara Merfalen, NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera, and NMC Board of Regents chair Juan T. Lizama.

Mersai leads NMC 2011 graduates

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A mother of two and a devoted wife led this year's 142 graduates of the Northern Marianas College, which held its 31st commencement exercise last Friday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Katherine Mae Cepeda Pangelinan Mersai received this year's highest academic recognition at NMC after the 28-year-old was adjudged class summa cum laude after graduating with a Bachelor of Science in elementary education.

She was also named the recipient of the college prestigious student leadership award for her leadership skills, ac-

See MERSAI on Page 4

Confusion over conditional umbrella permits highlights judge's ruling on deportation case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham's grant of conditional umbrella permits to 628 aliens and the then acting Labor secretary Cinta Kaipat's later announcement that no such permits were issued, were among the evidence discussed by a judge of U.S. Immigration

See CONFUSION on Page 4



Buckingham



Kaipat

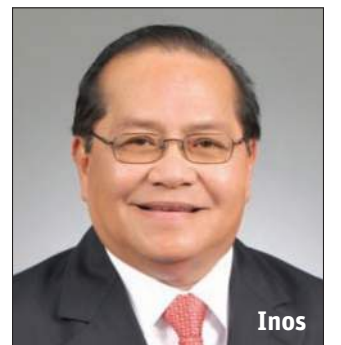
DESPITE LAW SIGNED IN DECEMBER 2009

Federal grants yet to be consolidated under governor's office

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Over 17 months had passed since Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed into law a bill creating a new Office of Grants Management, but the governor has yet to fund the office and name an administrator to oversee the management of millions of dollars in federal

See FEDERAL on Page 4



Inos



VALUE PLANS
TO FIT ANY BUDGET
UNLIMITED local SMS
UNLIMITED Nights and Weekends



AS LOW AS
\$25*
/month

CONNECT
iconnectsaipan.com
GUAM/SAIPAN OFFICE 888.8888

*Free phone models subject to availability and its replacement is at discretion of management. Subject to 12-month contract. Unlimited Nights and Weekends include PTT and local calls only. Some conditions apply.

Local

Haag, Stearns are SIS outstanding graduates



Oall Duangkamon-Haag
VALEDICTORIAN



Emma McCullough-Stearns
SALUTATORIAN

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan International School bestowed the highest academic honors to Oall Duangkamon-Haag and Emma McCullough-Stearns, who emerged valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, during Saturday night's commencement ceremony at American Memorial Park visitors center.

This year marked the school's sixth graduation rites where it promoted 13 high school students to college. Headmaster Dr. Dale Jenkins said the group was the biggest batch of stu-

dents that graduated from the school so far.

Dungkamon-Haag is the daughter of Mark and Ratana Haag. In her valedictory address, she shared her struggles and sacrifices to attain her academic goal.

The 19-year-old, who admitted being an adopted daughter from Thailand, expressed her gratitude to SIS educators and colleagues for helping her to succeed. She came to Saipan five years ago as a non-English speaker. It is her dream to become a pharmacist someday.

"At SIS, I have learned so

much—not just academically, but about what it takes to lead a virtuous life and be a good citizen in a multicultural world. Here, my eyes were opened to the world and the goodness of people from many lands. I've learned that the differences we all have are something to share and celebrate," she said, adding that she will take a seven-month course in a trade school in Las Vegas next semester.

McCullough-Stearns, meanwhile, is the daughter of Janet McCullough and Tony Stearns. She plans to enroll at Mount Holyoke College in Massachus-

setts next semester.

She thanked her parents, teachers, and classmates for helping her succeed in her high school.

This year's batch of graduates included So Young Ahn; Joshua Borja; Xiang Dai; Hancheng He; Samson Shinder Hsieh; Hyung Joo Kim; James Kim; Woo Jeong Kim; Seo Hee Kim; Jessica Soll; and Sixu Wang.

The event was keynoted by Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan who provided inspirational thoughts and messages for the newly graduates to succeed in life.

Crowd turns out for Firehouse Open House and Bike Rodeo



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Five-year-old Eashaan Rajebhosale waves as he enjoys his experience riding a fire truck during the Firehouse Open House at the Garapan Fire Station on May 21. The open house and the Bike Rodeo event that day were held in celebration of the EMS Week from May 15 to 21.

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Community members took part in the 5th Annual Firehouse Open House and Bike Rodeo events Saturday morning at the Garapan Fire Station, culminating the Emergency Medical Services Week celebration from May 15 to 21.

EMS Week aims to recognize members of the EMS teams, consisting of medical technicians, paramedics, and firefighters, who offer vital public service by providing lifesaving care to those in need.

Over 50 participants of all ages joined the Bike Rodeo event, which began at 8 am and was designed to educate the public about bike safety, such as proper helmet use and bicycle control, while negotiating their way through a pre-set course.

Biker Susan Marchitti, who coordinated the event, said she worked with Russ Quinn, president of Saipan Adventure Sports Club (formerly Northern Mariana Islands Triathlon Federation) to encourage other bikers and athletes to join the activity and recognize EMS team members.

Marchitti said in an interview that biker groups on island are also working with the Coastal Resources Management to develop maps for bike trails on island.

The Firehouse Open House, meanwhile, featured educational booths set up by the CNMI Diabetes Coalition and Ayuda Network, NMC-CREES, American Red Cross NMI Chapter, Community Emergency Response Team, Crime Prevention Unit, Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, and CRM.

The event also allowed community members to see up close and personal the equipment and vehicles used by the EMS team in responding to injuries and accidents.

"EMS Week, which is celebrated not only in the CNMI but across the nation, aims to promote public safety. We wanted the community come down and see what we do during this annual event," said emergency medical technician and firefighter Joaquin Camacho, who chairs this year's celebration.

Camacho said the event seeks to highlight the importance of the work they do for the community.

"If they know better what we do, we can minimize injuries and promote overall safety to the public," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Event organizers gave away free hotdogs and drinks for refreshments as well as prizes, including a children's bike donated by Scoops.

Samsung Captivate
4" Touch Screen
5MP Camera
720P HD Video
16GB Memory
Over 100,000 FREE Apps on Android Market
~~\$179~~
\$99

Motorola Atrix
4" Touch Screen
5MP Camera
720P HD Video
16GB Memory
CPU Dual-Core 1GHz
\$299

Samsung Mini
3.14" Touch Screen
3.15MP Camera
Video Recording
Android OS 2.2 (Froyo)
\$49

Receive 2500 Continental OnePass® Bonus Miles on New Account Activations. Conditions to apply.

NTT docomo DOCOMO PACIFIC

The Choice is Clear

483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com
Gualo Rai, Middle Road • Mita Travel, Garapan

* 24 month agreement and minimum voice and data plan required. Offer Valid from May 18 - June 18, 2011. Visit stores for additional details. While Supplies last.



NMC budget slashed by 7.5 percent

» College freezes non-critical posts, offers only one summer session

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College was informed by the Of-

Mayor challenges Saipan lawmakers to provide dog trap for each precinct

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan mayor Donald Flores asked each lawmaker on Friday to provide a dog trap for the precinct they represent, drawing support from members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

But while accepting the challenge, some lawmakers, including Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan), said even if they provide dog traps, there might not be personnel to implement the stray dog control program or there might not be a dog pound facility to house the dogs that will be caught.

Flores said a dog pound facility will be ready as early as June.

"I'm challenging lawmakers to provide a catching or dog trap for each precinct," Flores told *Saipan Tribune* during lawmakers' appreciation day for their employees and Legislative Bureau staffers at Laly 4 Beach on Friday.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) said he is in support of the dog control program, but wants the mayor to put the request in writing.

Palacios said he would also like to sit down with the mayor to get an update on the Lower Base dog control program facility, which he thought would be operational in November 2010.

Flores also said he's happy with the responses he got from lawmakers.

"Some of them said they will be buying more than one, like Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan)," he added.

A small dog trap costs about \$45, but this does not yet include shipping costs, Flores said.

House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan) said he supports the mayor's dog control program, and will be looking at his office budget for the purchase of a dog trap.

He said because precinct 1 is a big precinct with six House members, there might be a need for more than six dog traps.

The Saipan mayor's office will also be launching its initial dog tag licensing on June 6 through June 16 at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan, from 9am to 4pm.

For information about the dog tag licensing, contact the Dog Control Program Office under the Saipan mayor's office at 234-6208 ext. 105 or send email at dogcontrolprogram.mos2011@yahoo.com.

Office of Management and Budget that its budget was cut anew by 7.5 percent beginning April 1, which translates to a reduction of \$338,173.

NMC Board of Regents and interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera also said that OMB secretary Vicky Villagomez has also instructed them to make the necessary adjustments to ensure that college spending is within the adjusted allocation.

Because of the reduced budget, Cabrera said NMC has frozen non-critical positions and trimmed down the summer sessions.

Cabrera said that from original four sessions, there will only be one summer session this school year. She added that only the nursing program will not be affected by budget constraints as it has reached the maximum number of enrollees.

Among other plans to reduce the college's expenditures is to shutdown buildings to save power costs and reroute employees to other areas where their services are needed.

Cabrera said NMC will assess the plans that were implemented after the summer and if there is a need to further

reduce expenses, college and board officials hinted of possible layoffs and work reduction among personnel.

OMB said the across-the-board reduction on government agencies was a result of declining government revenues and resources.

Saipan Tribune learned that from the original budget of \$4.4 million in FY 2011, the NMC budget has been cut to \$4.1 million. Effective April 1, projected monthly allotment for NMC is

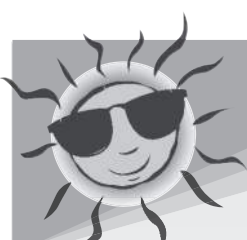
\$315,593 for its personnel cost and operation.

Based on the adjusted allocation, NMC has only \$1.8 million allotment left until end of fiscal year in September.

Cabrera disclosed that because of the reduction, NMC's projected shortfall is expected to increase from \$1.8 million to \$2.1 million this fiscal year. She also revealed that the amount NMC received from state fiscal stabilization fund is not enough to supplement

the shortfall.


As of Friday morning, NMC recorded 193 enrollees with eight classes already full with 18 student each.



Protecting Your Eyes From the Sun

The sun's primary danger is in the form of ultraviolet (UV) radiation. This can have adverse long and short-term effects on the eyes and your vision. There are many things you can do to prevent this, especially wearing sunglasses and lenses that offer UV protection. We welcome you to come in and talk to us about what you can do to protect yourself.

Whether you have an emergency, need a comprehensive eye exam or just have a simple question, we're here to help!



HARDT EYE CLINIC
235-2030

Yes, we accept your insurance—All major insurance plans accepted.

new wave dental

!! Promotion!!!

\$35

ADULT CLEANING
ONE HOUR WITH
ULTRASONIC SCALER
AND POLISH

\$59

RETAINER-BUSTERS
1 1/2 HOURS TO
MAKE YOUR SMILE
SPARKLE AGAIN!

FREE Tickets!!! HOLLYWOOD THEATERS

For all patients with dental insurance from:





(Some other insurance also qualified)

May 16th through June 13th only!

MIDDLE ROAD, ACROSS SUGAR KING PARK
233-3300

Royal Thai Massage

Mother's Day Promotion

Monday to Friday • 10am - 5pm

per hour of full body massage

\$1500

Open daily 10:00am - 11:00pm • Tel: 234-2521

1st Floor Saipan Gold Beach Hotel (Beach Road, Garapan)
Promo valid for ladies only.

Fenny Hair Cut Beauty Parlor

Mother's Day Special

Perm \$25.00 • Color \$20.00 • Steam Oil \$10.00

50% OFF

UV Gel Nail Sculpture Nails Vitreous Nails

Tel: 235-0393 • Open Daily: 10:00am - 10:00pm
Located in Chalan Piao Road beside Holiday Club

YTT GOLD Jewelry 无通金行

We buy gold and we do Pawn Service

Good Reputation Since 1989

Tel. No.: 233-2368
Business Hours: 1pm - 9pm
Located behind Duty Free and Star Sands Plaza

PHI Pharmacy

Diabetes Shoppe® Your Partner In Diabetes Care

Memorial Day Special Sale

25% Off | 50% Off

All OTC Items Selected Items

May 30, 2011

at Navy Hill and Dandan locations only

Navy Hill (CHC) Tel. (670) 323-5000/01 • Fax (670) 323-5011 • Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm • Sat & Sun: 8am-4pm
Dandan (Joeten Dandan Center) Tel. (670) 235-6170/74 • Fax (670) 235-6180 • Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm
Puerto Rico (Marina Heights II) Tel. (670) 323-5100 • Fax (670) 323-5111 • Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm
Kagman (Joeten Market) Tel. (670) 256-6170/71 • Fax (670) 256-6173 (Opening Soon)

PHI Pharmacy...the pharmacy you can trust!

Affordable Essentials

- Diabetes Shop Products
- Cough and Cold
- Health and Beauty
- Wound Care
- Health and Vitamins
- Durable Medical Supplies

We accept Medicaid, Medicare Part D, HTH Worldwide, Tricare and all local health insurances at all PHI locations

Navy Hill (CHC) location OPEN SEVEN (7) DAYS A WEEK!

The JOETEN MOTORS SERVICE SPECIAL

BIG DEAL

Save Big Right Now.




THE WORKS FUEL SAVER PACKAGE

- ✓ Change engine oil
- ✓ Change engine oil filter
- ✓ Adjust tire pressure
- ✓ Check and top off all fluid levels
- ✓ Add Engine Treatment
- ✓ Add Washer Solvent
- ✓ Lube Hinges
- ✓ Perform Multi-Point Inspection




STARTING AT

\$62⁹⁵

\$72⁹⁵ V8 Trks./SUV's

FROM APRIL 4 - MAY 31, 2011

Prices may vary with make, model and year. See Service Advisors for details.

GO WITH THE EXPERTS.



Joeten Motors

POWERED BY YOU

SHOWROOM HOURS: MON. - FRI. 8 AM - 6 PM
SAT. 8 AM - 12 NOON • TEL. 234-5562



FEDERAL

From Page 1

grants that the CNMI is eligible to receive annually.

Public Law 16-48 or the Grants Management Act was signed on Dec. 14, 2009.

But Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, in an interview, said the administration is now looking into the actual creation of the office, which is part of a reorganization plan that is expected to take effect at the start of fiscal year 2012.

“We’re trying to consolidate all federal [grant] activities under the Office of Grants Management under the Office of the Governor,” Inos told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said right now, federal grants are handled by different departments and agencies.

“What this [law] does is put it all together under one office,” added Inos, a former Finance secretary.

RESIDENTS

From Page 1

In the first half of fiscal year 2011, the government collected only \$19.676 million in business gross revenue tax.

This is lower than the average of \$23 million per six months during the previous year, which posted a total sales tax collection of \$46.5 million.

Borja, who is also an employee at the Commonwealth Ports Authority, said despite the economic crisis, he does not think that people on the island would really go hungry.

“Saipan is an island community. Everybody knows everybody. People share with their neighbors what they have. If I have something, I give to people who don’t have,” he said.

While he’s hoping that CPA won’t be like the central government which has been implementing a 16-hour pay cut biweekly since October 2010, he said he’s preparing for the worst.

‘Lucky not to have pink slips’

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, in a separate interview, said the Fitial administration has successfully avoided laying off government employees despite drastic drop in revenue, but has continued a 16-hour pay cut biweekly mostly for so-called non-critical government employees.

Since June 2010, these same employees have also been having delayed payroll.

But if it’s any consolation, nobody in the CNMI government has lost his job despite reduced revenue.

Other states and territories, including Hawaii and California, have already resorted to a combination of layoff and reduced pay to cope with their financial crisis.

“We’re not giving pink slips because of austerity,” Inos said. “The way we overcome austerity is through reduced hours.”

The positions of those who have resigned from government have not been filled, unless they are critical to government operations, he added.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the Fitial administration is committed to exhausting any and all austere options before resorting to layoffs.

“We have been making difficult choices, but the admin is doing its best to ensure that public employees maintain their jobs,” he said.

Cautious spending

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) said if there’s something good that has come out of the economic crisis is that people have learned how to be cautious about their spending, and budget what little

To be exempted from this consolidation is the Public School System. The administration has yet to decide whether to include the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Under the 2009 law, the Office of Grants Management will serve as the central point coordinator of federal grants, disseminating grant information and training government staff about the full range of federal assistance the CNMI is eligible to receive.

The law says this office is responsible for establishing a database of federal grants currently received, conduct research on all federal grants that the CNMI is eligible to receive but has not applied for, and develop grant applications for those federal grants the CNMI has not previously submitted grant applications but is eligible to receive.

It is also responsible for doing research of federal grants that the CNMI is not currently eligible to receive but might reasonably be made eligible through the

they have.

He cited, for example, that if one is about to leave the house, he or she would ask family members whether they like something bought from the store so that there won’t be no need for another trip to save on gas.

“Right now, people want to make every trip worthwhile,” he said, citing the steadily increasing gas prices, along with increasing costs of electricity and other consumer items also resulting from high gas and shipping costs.

Palacios said there’s no denying that hardship is taking its toll on individual households.

“I myself only have \$60 in my ATM card. There are rumors we won’t get paid until Friday instead of early in the week, so that would be tough. My kids and my wife will also be needing money for school and gas,” he said.

The freshman lawmaker said there’s misconception that lawmakers do have lots of money. He said as far as Saipan lawmakers are concerned, this is entirely untrue.

He said he had to ask IT&E whether it could hold off on disconnecting phone services after the deadline for payment tomorrow, because there’s no guarantee that government paychecks will be released today or tomorrow.

“They said they won’t disconnect but they need to charge \$20,” he said, adding that it seems the extra charge is too much.

House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan) said the financial crisis would have been a good opportunity for the government to reduce its cost “and remove some of the excess fat.”

“There are still areas where the government can reduce cost but has not done so. The administration could have started identifying programs that could be reduced or shut down because they’re not necessary, without jeopardizing critical services,” he said.

He said people “don’t have a choice” but to be cautious in spending their dollars.

‘With eyes closed’

Thomas T. Chong, a 41-year-old As Lito resident, said the government should bring in new industries to the CNMI that will help tourism.

“We lost our garment industry. We have to think of other industries to help tourism. We can create more diving spots that MVA [Marianas Visitors Authority] should market. A lot of [people from] Asian countries go to the U.S. to take English courses when we’re the one nearest to them,” he said.

Chong said he does not consider casino gambling a good industry, but he said if it is put to a vote, he will vote

Covenant, which makes applicable to the CNMI “those laws which provide federal services and financial assistance programs as they apply to Guam.”

But to date, the governor has yet to name an Office of Grants and Management administrator, who should have at least a bachelor’s degree from a U.S.-accredited college or university, and at least five years experience in grant writing or grants management.

The administrator is to report directly to the governor or to another government official the governor has delegated his supervisory responsibility.

The new office is also required to provide an annual report to the Legislature on federal grants received by the CNMI by grant, fiscal year, by amount received, by amount expended from each grant, and total federal assistance and grant expenditures computed on a per capita basis.

Other consolidation and reorganization that has actually taken place in-

“yes” but with his “eyes closed.”

Inos said foreign investors that have visited the CNMI in the last two weeks or so are not just interested in putting up casinos on Tinian, but in other businesses as well, including hotel resorts, golf courses, theme parks, agriculture, and alternative energy sources that will be helpful to tourism.

Lawmakers are still battling each other on legalizing casino gambling on Saipan, while existing casino industries on Tinian and Rota have been struggling.

As they continue to debate on casinos, collections from business gross revenue tax and other revenue sources continue to drop.

Collections from business license fees reached only \$305,621 in the first half of the fiscal year. If this trend continues in the second half of the year, the total collection would be 35 percent lower than the previous year’s \$946,247.

Revenues, spending

Government revenue in the first half of FY 2011 was short by over \$1.087 million despite a revised budget of \$122 million from \$132 million, mainly because of low hospital collections, the Department of Finance said.

Hospital collection was \$3.319 million less than estimate. It collected only \$5.380 million, far below the projected \$8.7 million.

If this trend continues in the second half of the year, the hospital would end up only collecting \$10.76 million in 2011, compared to over \$21 million the previous year.

During the same period, expenditures exceeded allotments by \$657,236, also primarily because of hospital expenses and medical referral.

Actual revenue in the first half of the year totaled only \$56,540,964, which was \$1.087 million or almost 2 percent below the estimate of \$57,628,750.

Demapan said given that majority of the government’s shortfall is attributed to a lack of revenues and not over-expenditure—with the exception of medical referral—“I think government agencies have learned to make do with less resources.”

“Despite drastically reduced operational budgets, agencies continue to deliver adequate services to the public.

Just like other government officials, Demapan said it’s hard to point out at this time when things will start picking up again.

“This is why it’s important for the Legislature to pass bills that are aimed at generating revenues for the government. We also are looking at ways to beef up investment promotions for the CNMI,” he added.

clude the administration’s transfer of the management and control of the Juvenile Detention Unit from the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs to the Department of Corrections through an executive order.

The administration also plans to again merge DPS and the Department of Corrections, turn the Common-

MERSAI

From Page 1

tive participation in community events, and excellent services to the college’s student organizations.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, she described her recognitions as unexpected and a result of hard work and sacrifices.

“I am truly happy that I made it! It feels really great because I didn’t expect that I would be on the top [honor]. But I have to say that I didn’t do it alone, but with a very supportive team [from my family and colleagues],” she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Mersai is married to Danny Mersai and has two children ages 6 and 3. After graduation, she plans to join the Public School System.

“It’s really hard to become a mother and a student at the same time... but if you have the determination and you’re willing to sacrifice, you can do it,” she said.

In her message to the graduates, Mersai inspired her colleagues to continue striving for the best.

Besides being an educator, the outstanding graduate also admitted planning to pursue a medical career in the future.

Also named top graduates in the ceremony were Glenn Samuel Merjilla Songcuan with an associate degree in arts and business and associate degree in applied science; Querlaine DLG. Blas with

CONFUSION

From Page 1

Court on Saipan who stopped deportation proceedings against a long-term alien worker.

According to a recent written decision and order of Judge Dayna Beamer that granted Danilo Rejano’s motion to terminate the removal proceedings against him, Rejano, through counsel Stephen Woodruff, filed a document dated Nov. 25, 2009 from Buckingham that contains a list of names of individuals granted conditional umbrella permits.

In that public notice, Buckingham stated that certain conditions apply in the case of the 628 individuals who were classified as “overstayers.”

Rejano’s name appeared on that list.

On March 14, 2011, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security submitted in court additional evidence in support of its position that Rejano is removable.

DHS specifically submitted news articles from the *Saipan Tribune* quoting Kaipat that Labor never issued conditional umbrella permits.

The article, which was published on Dec. 4, 2009, quoted Kaipat as saying that Labor never issued conditional umbrella permits and that the announcement in the newspapers about the permits was only from Buckingham.

After the publication of that announcement, Kaipat said she and Buckingham issued a joint statement to clarify the situation.

DHS also submitted a letter from Labor with a list of “aliens admitted to the CNMI for purposes of employment who are in illegal status” as of March 9, 2010. Rejano’s name appeared on the list.

Woodruff argued that Labor’s list is not reliable, is misleading, and was au-

wealth Health Center into a corporation, and reorganize DCCA.

“We’re drafting a combination of executive orders and bills to try to streamline government operations and restructure them so it’s an ongoing process but we don’t expect any of those to take place until early in the new fiscal year, any major reorganization,” Inos added.

an the associate in liberal arts; and Jiao Xu, with an associate degree in arts and business and associate in arts.

Paul Christopher M. Camacho and Brent C. Babauta were also hailed top in the adult school and general education development programs, respectively.

“Everything you do, do your best. When you achieve and you strive and you’ve earned your reward, let there be no doubt that you truly deserved it. Going through college is no easy task. You sweat, you cry, you curse through it. But if you keep that goal in mind and strive with diligence, you’ll find the reward is already within your grasp,” Songcuan said.

Songcuan will pursue his college studies at the University of Guam where he plans to enroll in a business course.

Also named recipient of the student leadership award was Amberlynn Rosario Mendiola, while NMC presented the community service award to Min Seon Park.

This year’s commencement rites were keynoted by dean of academic programs and affairs Barbara Merfalen and Geri Lynn Willis from NMC student engagement/first year experience learning communities. The event was also attended by members of the Legislature, Board of Regents, faculty, elected officials, and hundreds of spectators.

NMC named seven summa cum laude awardees, 13 magna cum laude awardees, and 25 cum laude awardees during Saturday’s ceremony.

thored by a CNMI official, Kaipat (then acting Labor secretary) who never had authority over immigration matters.

In her order, Judge Beamer said to support its argument that Labor never issued any conditional umbrella permits, DHS submitted only the *Saipan Tribune* news article about Kaipat’s statement, which according to the judge was a hearsay.

Beamer said DHS did not file a copy of the “joint statement” that [Kaipat cited in the article], nor any other evidence directly from CNMI officials to corroborate what the article states.

Beamer ruled that DHS does not effectively rebut Rejano’s evidence about Buckingham’s public notice, which stated he (Rejano) was granted an umbrella permit that is still in effect.

Beamer also noted that the joint statement was not provided and the list of names on Labor’s certification of illegal status document was authored well after Nov. 28, 2009 and was not otherwise verified as being accurate.

The Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 (federalization law) took effect on Nov. 28, 2009.

Police arrested Rejano on Nov. 24, 2009 as he was waiting in line to obtain an umbrella permit from Labor in San Antonio. That day, Buckingham issued the notice granting conditional umbrella permits to 628 aliens, including Rejano.

Two days later, Superior Court associate judge David Wiseman released Rejano from jail as he ordered the closure of the local court’s 32-year immigration calendar and dismissed all pending immigration cases.

Rejano said he was so embarrassed when a police officer, whom he believes was contacted by CNMI immigration, handcuffed him as he was waiting in a long line of alien workers.

'Fund execs refuse to review evidence vs Merrill Lynch'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The lawyer for the retirees who sued the former investment consultant of the NMI Retirement Fund disclosed yesterday that Fund board members and officials have refused to review the evidence against Merrill Lynch.

Atty. Robert O'Connor also claimed that the independent audit commissioned by the agency is also expected to be a whitewash.

Board chair Sixto Igisomar was not readily available for comment when contacted Friday and has yet to respond to an email inquiry at press time.

Fund officials said during their board meeting Tuesday that based on their records not enough evidence has been found that Merrill Lynch harmed the Fund.

"The retirees had their own experts analyze Merrill Lynch's performance and those experts believe there is a case," said O'Connor, adding that an attorney from Florida and one from Hawaii both flew out to make presentations to the board of trustees, at their own expense, on why the trustees should sue Merrill Lynch.

But the board, he said, refused to meet with these attorneys and boycotted the meetings. O'Connor also said that his law firm even went to the Fund to make a third presentation but only one board member showed up.

"The board has hired some consultant to whitewash the problems and come up with a report exonerating Merrill Lynch. How do I know this? Their so-called independent auditor has not even both-

ered to contact my firm or the Florida or Hawaii firms we are working with to review our case against Merrill Lynch," explained the lawyer.

He described as "disturbing" the fact that the retirees will pay \$25,000 for the "whitewash" report.

Last Tuesday, Fund in-house counsel Carolyn Kern cited several concerns on the pending Beneficiary Derivative Act at the Legislature. She also disclosed that its investment consultant, Wilshire Associates, and other service providers want to revisit their contracts with the agency as a result of anticipated passage of the measure.

"The proposed law that went to the Senate addressed each and every single concern raised by the trustees. What Wilshire is saying now, is nothing new..."

said O'Connor.

The lawyer claimed that the legislation will protect retirees

from a totally non-responsive and sometimes hostile board as well as reducing the Fund's

need for lawyers because the retirees will fund litigation the Fund fails to pursue.

Diabetic?

Visit the Center for Advanced Diabetic Eye Care

Why?

- **Advanced Technologies**
 - State of the art diagnostic equipment
 - Advanced lasers and surgeries
- **Newest Vision Saving Treatments**
- **Top Doctors**
 - Mark Robertson, OD
Magna Cum Laude
 - David Khorram, MD
America's Top Ophthalmologists
Researcher in Diabetic Eye Care



Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"

Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome

235-9090

Beach Road, Garapan
www.MarianasEye.com

How's Your Hearing?

Specializing in:

- **Hearing Evaluations**
- **Custom fitted hearing aids**
- **Digital and Programmable Technology**
- **Pilot Communication Devices**



Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences
Email: ross@guamcell.net

Jennifer Ross will be at:

- Friday May 27th 8:00am - 5:00pm at Marianas Medical Center in **San Antonio**
- Saturday May 28th 9:00am - 1:00pm at Marianas Medical Center in **Garapan**

Call for an appointment:

234-3925/7

Insurance accepted:
AETNA and Medicaid



Ross Hearing Aids

Triple J Motors

Saipan's Best

Comprehensive Auto Maintenance Service

Just Got Better!

BUMPER-TO-BUMPER

Maintenance Service

- Oil change with Castrol motor oil, includes new oil filter
- Clean brake system, check steering & suspension
- Inspect and rotate tires
- Check fuel tank, lines, hoses and connections, plus add Johnson's Fuel-Injector Cleaner
- Inspect front and rear axle boots and joints
- Adjust belts
- Inspect emission control
- Clean air filter
- Test battery & clean terminals - Charge if necessary
- Check underbody for damage, rust or corrosion
- Perform minor chassis lubrication and topping of low fluids

Plus, receive a **FREE**

Exterior Car Wash & Interior Vacuum

and DuraFresh Dura Mist Air Freshener

DuraFresh®



Starting at
\$89.95*



*4 cylinder vehicles only. 6+ cylinder vehicles & above starting at \$99.95. Disposal fee not included and some restrictions apply. Service recommended every 6 months or 6,000 miles. Keep your brakes and engine oil clean! Offer good for a limited time only.

Customers First



TRIPLE J MOTORS PARTS & SERVICE

Located on Beach Road, Chalan LauLau
Open Mon-Fri: 7:30am to 5:30pm • Sat: 7:30am to 5:00pm
Tel: 234-7133/3051 ext 25/27 • Fax: 234-3052

Email:
serviceadvisor@triplejsaipan.com
rsteale@triplejsaipan.com

www.carssaipan.com

Manta Ray Battalion wins PSS island-wide drill competition



MONETH G. DEPOSA
Members of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Battalion pose for a group photo after bagging the overall championship of the CNMI-PSS 9th Annual Inter-Island Drill Competition held at the Marianas High School grounds Saturday. Inset shows the Kagman High School cadets as they wow the crowd during the rifle drill exhibition.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 65-member Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Battalion emerged overall winner of the 9th Annual Inter-Island Drill Competition, besting four other school teams in the rigorous five-hour contest held Saturday at the Marianas High School grounds.

Led by Cadet Lt. Col. Mark San Juan, the champion team also swept three of the competition's six special awards; including the best team in color guard rifle drill, best in color guard saber category, and first place winner in the armed drill exhibition.

Last year, the competition's champion was Rota High School with SSHS finishing third. This year marked the Manta Ray Battalion's third time to bag the championship trophy.

San Juan attributed the team's success to the hard work, sacrifices, and commitment of all members who started practicing their drills at the start of the school year in September 2010. Two hours of practice performance were allotted each day until the group dedicated longer hours in the final weeks before the competition.

"It feels really great! Preparing for such a long time, finally all the hard work paid off! I am proud of the team's accomplishment today," San Juan told *Saipan Tribune* after receiving the prestigious awards Saturday.

San Juan said all awards

will be displayed at the school as testament to the battalion's commitment to do the best for SSHS. The 65 SSHS cadets were selected from the school's JROTC program.

For the young battalion commander, Saturday's event was more than a competition but an opportunity for all cadets throughout the CNMI to showcase what they have learned from the program.

Adjudged second best team was Marianas High School, which was also the recipient of the best exhibition rifle drill award. Kagman High School emerged third overall as well as bagged the best in armed drill and fancy drill exhibitions.

Fourth and fifth place awards went to Rota High School and Tinian High School, respectively.

PSS director of Army instruction Lt. Col. Robert Gay expressed his satisfaction on the overall turnout of the event which saw hundreds of spectators from three islands.

He described the competition as intense and tight, separated only by a few points.

"That's how good they are. They did a great job, the performances were fantastic, and they deserved to be honored and recognized. We're very proud of their accomplishments," Gay told *Saipan Tribune*.

Gay said the drill competition aims to promote discipline and leadership skills, develop self-confidence, teamwork, and camaraderie among peers and all contest categories are based and rated according to U.S. Army manuals and regulations.

The event also honored retired Sgt. Maj. Frank Cepeda, founder of the JROTC program in the CNMI.

Gay lauded the support of the education board represented by vice chair Tanya King and Alfred Ada, who represented education commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan.

Triple Treat yourself to **FREE** Prenatal Classes at the WIC Clinic

1st Saturday of the month-Prenatal Class
2nd Saturday of the month-Delivery Class
3rd Saturday of the month-Postpartum Class

Each class is from 9:00am-11:00am.

You do not have to be a WIC participant to join these classes. We have 10 seats available for each class, so call the WIC Program today at 664-4084 to sign up or to find out more information.

These classes are brought to you by the Commonwealth Health Center Labor and Delivery Department, Maternal Child Health Program, and CNMI WIC Program.

In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal-opportunity provider and employer.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Network Maintenance

Please be advised that IT&E will conduct network maintenance on **Tuesday, May 24, between 2am to 5am**. While IT&E does not anticipate any downtime, Internet service in the CNMI and Guam may be temporarily interrupted during the maintenance period. Tuesday morning's maintenance window is part of IT&E's network upgrade that will provide a more reliable service to the CNMI.

For more information,
Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or
Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.



Car rented by 2 Korean stewardesses burglarized

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A car rented by two Korean stewardesses was burglarized at Suicide Cliff in Marpi last week.

The stewardesses were taking pictures at Suicide Cliff and when they returned after a few minutes to the car—a red Toyota Solara 2004 model—it's window glass on the front passenger side was already shattered.

One stewardess lost her bag that contained a camera, cell-phone, \$350 cash, and credit cards.

The Department of Public Safety has yet to release information to the media about the burglary.

Nothing was stolen from the car, but the repair cost was \$850, according to the businessman.

Jun said that, in their 16 years of business, a total of 15 scooter units were stolen and that not a single scooter was recovered and no one was arrested.

Last May 1, a 2011 Mazda 3 owned by QQ Car Rental and rented by tourists, was burglarized at Tank Beach in Kagman.

The suspect or suspects shattered the driver's window, searched the car and only took a can of soda as no money or other items were in the vehicle.

It was QQ Car Rental's fifth vehicle burglarized at the same beach since last January. No one was arrested in all those burglary cases.

Jun said that, last March the back glass of their Honda Civic that was rented by a Russian tourist was shattered by an unidentified person at Paupau Beach.

Nothing was stolen from the car, but the repair cost was \$850, according to the businessman.

Jun said that, in their 16 years of business, a total of 15 scooter units were stolen and that not a single scooter was recovered and no one was arrested.

Last May 1, a 2011 Mazda 3 owned by QQ Car Rental and rented by tourists, was burglarized at Tank Beach in Kagman.

The suspect or suspects shattered the driver's window, searched the car and only took a can of soda as no money or other items were in the vehicle.

It was QQ Car Rental's fifth vehicle burglarized at the same beach since last January. No one was arrested in all those burglary cases.

Jun said that, last March the back glass of their Honda Civic that was rented by a Russian tourist was shattered by an unidentified person at Paupau Beach.

Nothing was stolen from the car, but the repair cost was \$850, according to the businessman.

Jun said that, in their 16 years of business, a total of 15 scooter units were stolen and that not a single scooter was recovered and no one was arrested.

Last May 1, a 2011 Mazda 3 owned by QQ Car Rental and rented by tourists, was burglarized at Tank Beach in Kagman.

The suspect or suspects shattered the driver's window, searched the car and only took a can of soda as no money or other items were in the vehicle.

It was QQ Car Rental's fifth vehicle burglarized at the same beach since last January. No one was arrested in all those burglary cases.

Jun said that, last March the back glass of their Honda Civic that was rented by a Russian tourist was shattered by an unidentified person at Paupau Beach.

Nothing was stolen from the car, but the repair cost was \$850, according to the businessman.

Jun said that, in their 16 years of business, a total of 15 scooter units were stolen and that not a single scooter was recovered and no one was arrested.

Last May 1, a 2011 Mazda 3 owned by QQ Car Rental and rented by tourists, was burglarized at Tank Beach in Kagman.



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Ju Won Kil, owner of Asia Rent Car and Scooters, shows the shattered window glass of a 2004 Toyota Solara that was burglarized at Suicide Cliff in Marpi last week. One of two Korean stewardesses who rented the car lost money, credit cards, camera, and other items.

OVER \$300K DEBT

Bank of Saipan sues former owner, operator of defunct Ladera School

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Bank of Saipan Inc. has sued the former owner and operator of the defunct Ladera International School of Saipan for allegedly failing to pay \$300,822 in loan and damages.

BOS, through counsel S. Joshua Berger, asked the Superior Court to order defendants Yong Nam Park, Sung Yun Kim, and ILC Corp., pay the damages or that their mortgaged property be sold at public auction.

Berger said Park and Kim are Korean nationals both presently residing in Saipan, but oft-times living in Korea.

Berger said ILC, which used to operate Ladera International School of Saipan, is presently operating its business on the island.

Berger said the original loan totaled \$300,000, but as of April 4, 2011, the defendants owe BOS \$300,822.08.

The lawyer said there are no known persons or entities having an interest in the mortgaged property subordinate in right to that of BOS who have claimed any interest in the property.

Berger said the defendants are in breach of their agreements with BOS since no payment has been made since the issuance of a notice of default on March 1, 2011.

According to court records, Park and Kim used to be married.

Early this year, Park and his brother Yong Sung Park and their parent, Pil Hwan Park, filed a \$1-million lawsuit against Kim for allegedly mismanaging the school and embezzling its funds.

Yung Nam Park and Kim reportedly set up the Ladera School with the Park brothers as shareholders.

After more than four years of hosting local and foreign students, Ladera School shut down operations in August 2010.

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **May 24**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **May 24**.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **May 24**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.



To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Laulau/Tinian/Rota Office – up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

Mount Carmel School's
Theatre Club
presents
an epic teen-age romantic comedy

ZERO to HERO

May 25

4:00 pm · 7:00 pm · Hollywood Theaters · \$5.00

For more information, call 234-6184.
This film made possible, in part, by support from

YCO Corporation



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BID

CUC-IFB-11-035

SECURITY GUARD SERVICES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms capable of providing Security Guard Services for various posts at CUC, Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package and Scope-of-Services may be picked-up, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

Contractors must provide proof of "Indemnity Liability Insurance," specifically covering security workers assigned to CUC's compound. Coverage must be a minimum of \$200,000.00.

Bidders shall provide a certification signed by a principle of the company stating that the company is currently in full compliance with all applicable CNMI and Federal Labor Laws and has been for the past Five (5) years. Should the company be unable to provide such certification, the company must provide a written explanation as to why, including a description of any violations of such CNMI and Federal labor laws and remedial action taken. Failure of the company to provide the certification or explanation is grounds to reject the entire bid.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-035, Security Guard Services", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **May 26, 2011 at 11:00 AM, (ChST)** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. CUC also would require a copy of the submittal to be emailed at the same time of the bid closing, to Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Assistant, via email: mika_muna@cucgov.net. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Bid award will be given to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder whose bid is responsive to all specification and requirements.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries regarding the Invitation for Bids must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST), on May 16, 2011 to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer- charles_warren@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defect in said bids if, in its sole opinion, to do so is in the best interest of the CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-11-036

GASIFICATION OR WASTE TO ENERGY GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced Independent Power Producers (IPP), to supply electrical energy or synthetic diesel - produced from commercially proven Waste to Energy (WTE) or Gasification systems, for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC seeks responses from qualified developers from which the CUC intends to select one respondent to negotiate Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) and install Gasification or Waste to Energy generation facilities that best fit the CUC's requirements. Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) will be the feedstock.

The Scope of Services requested in the Request for Proposal shall include, but not be limited to, securing sites, all permits and approvals from governing agencies, and providing all labor, services and equipment necessary to design, procure, install, construct, test, commission, monitor, operate, and maintain fully operational Gasification or Waste to Energy Generating Facilities. Selected IPP(s) will be responsible for operating and maintaining all facets of the Generating Facility (ies) and for generating the required output as described in the Request for Proposal.

The RFP package and Scope-of-Service will be e-mailed to all interested Offeror, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 200.00 for one set; by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 21, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**, at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-036 " Gasification or Waste to Energy Generation" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **August 30, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Late submissions will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **July 19, 2011** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director, Power Generation/Distribution, via email address wallon59@yahoo.com. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Buckingham tells OAG staff to just keep working

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham has urged prosecutors and staff at the Office of the Attorney General to just keep working as he and Chief Prosecutor Michael Ernest are there to support them and review their work.

"We have attorneys and non-attorneys who, together, make our office work. My message is, I am grateful to everyone who is in the OAG. You are people of high integrity and work ethic and the Commonwealth is lucky to have you," Buckingham told



Buckingham

Saipan Tribune on Thursday when asked about his message to OAG staff over the published report (not in the *Saipan Tribune*) that claims he fired, then rehired, Ernest. Buckingham belied the report.

On his message to the public, the AG said while he can't discuss specific personnel matters, he trusts the public to know that they work cases quickly, fairly, and competently.

"I am not perfect but I do hope the public knows that I am doing my best to serve them," Buckingham said.

Asked about his reaction that some people find the firing and rehiring issue funny, the AG said it's a free country and people are free to laugh about whatever they wish.

He said his and Ernest's focus is doing the job that they are hired and paid to do.

"We have made substantial progress on old cases, are moving much better on new cases, and, overall, are working better as a team," Buckingham said.

Asked whether he had a fight with Ernest, the AG replied "No we work."

But the work, Buckingham said, is intense and feelings are strong.

"That is part of our job," he said.

The AG said when he and Ernest are in the office, they often work through different perspective and they have intense discussions so they fully explore issues.

During Buckingham's term as AG, *Saipan Tribune* counted at least 11 assistant attorneys general who have left the OAG.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 23, 2000

CPA nears getting FAA nod on Rota runway project

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is hoping to strike a deal with the Federal Aviation Administration for the approval of a project aimed at improving the skid resistance of the Rota International Airport runway. CPA Board Chair Roman S. Palacios said the agency is currently in the final stages of discussion with U.S. aviation officials for FAA approval on the re-sealing of the Rota airport runway under the facility's proposed rehabilitation project. Mr. Palacios pointed out that current efforts are focused at improving the skid resistance of the island's air transport facility runway in order to make it less slippery especially now that the rainy season is already approaching.

Exhibit features young artists

A wide variety of art works is now on display at the CNMI Gallery for Arts and Culture on Capitol Hill, an exhibit featuring over 180 unique works by some 97 students of the Northern Marianas College. This event being held in support of CNMI's promising young artists is the first of its kind in the history of the Commonwealth's lone college. NMC Photography instructor Jim Ellis yesterday said at the grand opening he hopes the exhibit will become a yearly activity. "We have many excellent artists on island. I was also a photography teacher in the states and comparably these students are very good. Some of them have even held the camera for the first time during the last semester," said Mr. Ellis.

May 23, 2001

NIMO launches development plan

The Northern Islands Mayor's Office officially unveiled a 90-page-thick plan containing a well-studied proposal to develop the Northern Islands. Copies of the development sketch have been distributed to local leaders, lawmakers, and members of the community in a bid to spread the word of NIMO's seriousness with regard to following through its long-term goals. Northern Islands Mayor Joseph T. Ogomoro underscored yesterday on the crucial role that three pending pieces of legislation will play on the proposed development scheme.

Interior asked to help alleviate NMI economy

The House of Representatives yesterday asked the US Department of the Interior to help the CNMI government alleviate the sad condition of the islands' economy by encouraging American businesses to infuse fresh capital into the islands. Local legislators made the call through House Joint Resolution 12-22, sponsored by Rep. Dino M. Jones, asking Interior Secretary to meet with US-based companies and discuss possible expansion to the Northern Marianas. House members invoked a provision in the Covenant between the Commonwealth and the Federal governments, which guarantees economic development assistance from the US.

May 23, 2002

Heinz: \$2-M for Tinian is really no loss

Politics aside, the allocation of the \$2 million Compact Impact payments to the Tinian High School is no loss since the money is going into education-one of the priorities identified by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation in the allocation of the Compact Impact funds. House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider stressed this point, adding that, if the money goes toward educating the children on Tinian, they will, in turn, contribute to the welfare of the Commonwealth as a whole. "Politics aside, it [\$2 million] went to a worthy cause," he said. Hofschneider stressed, however, that one can also make the argument that using the money to finish the Tinian High School may be inappropriate, as one can also look at other sources of money to accomplish the same objective, such as the Capital Improvement Program funds, which are geared more toward these types of projects.

Former NMIRF official sues Outrigger

Former Retirement Fund board member Charles P. Reyes is suing the Outrigger Guam Resort for negligence in connection to a 2000 bathroom mishap that reportedly left Reyes severely injured. The plaintiff, through counsel Edward C. Arriola, initiated a \$74,950-civil action suit against the Outrigger Guam L.P. before the Superior Court, blaming the latter for allegedly being "reckless, careless and negligent in permitting dangerous conditions to exist" under its establishment. According to court documents, Reyes, who was a guest at the Outrigger Guam in May 2000 slipped inside the Tumon-based hotel's bathroom while showering.

BUY 2 GET 1 FREE Enjoy Memorial Day



Buy 2 round trip tickets from Saipan to Hong Kong (\$536 p/p)* or Saipan to Guam (\$166 p/p)* and the 3rd ticket is FREE! This promotion applies to all of our flights from Saipan

Hong Kong 4 Star Hotels from \$677 USD* (p/p)

Includes:
Round Trip Airfare
Hotel accommodation (3 nights)
Transfers (from and to Hong Kong airport)

Book now! 288 2FLY (359)

- * Free ticket issued when 2 full price adult tickets purchased.
- * Package prices based on double occupancy.
- * Government taxes and fees of \$33.64 payable on all tickets issued round trip Saipan-Hong Kong.
- * Government taxes and fees of \$20.36 payable on all tickets issued round trip Saipan-Guam.
- * See Operator-Participant Agreement for more information at www.flyguam.com.
- * Valid until May 30th, 2011
p/p= per person

Flights are public charters operated by Sky King Inc.
www.flyguam.com

GUAM SPECIAL!

Fly Guam offers you 1 FREE overnight stay in Guam or 1 FREE day car rental with purchase of round trip ticket.



Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXI, Issue No. 120Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Arnold Schwarzenegger's failings

There is sexual infidelity and there is sexual harassment. The two behaviors are not the same. The first is an abuse of trust, the second an abuse of power. Arnold Schwarzenegger has admitted to both.

When he first ran for governor of California in the 2003 campaign to recall Gov. Gray Davis, Schwarzenegger was dogged by allegations of sexual harassment—of having groped more than a dozen women over the years who did not want his attention and who were humiliated and angered.

During the campaign, he vaguely admitted to “behaving badly” and said that if there were people out there whom he had offended, he was sorry.

It may have helped him politically to say that, but what may have helped even more was his wife's staunch defense of him. In an address to a conservative women's group soon after the allegations were published in the Los Angeles Times, Maria Shriver said in a steely voice that “you can listen to people who have never met Arnold or who met him for five seconds 30 years ago. Or you can listen to me.”

The voters elected him in a landslide.

Now Schwarzenegger is apologizing again for his behavior—this time, to his wife. According to a report in Tuesday's Times, Shriver left her husband earlier this year after finding out he had fathered a child more than a decade ago with another woman—a household staffer who retired from the couple's employ in January.

It turns out that even Shriver didn't know everything about her husband. (If she had known at the time of the harassment allegations, maybe she would have made the same speech to voters. Who knows?)

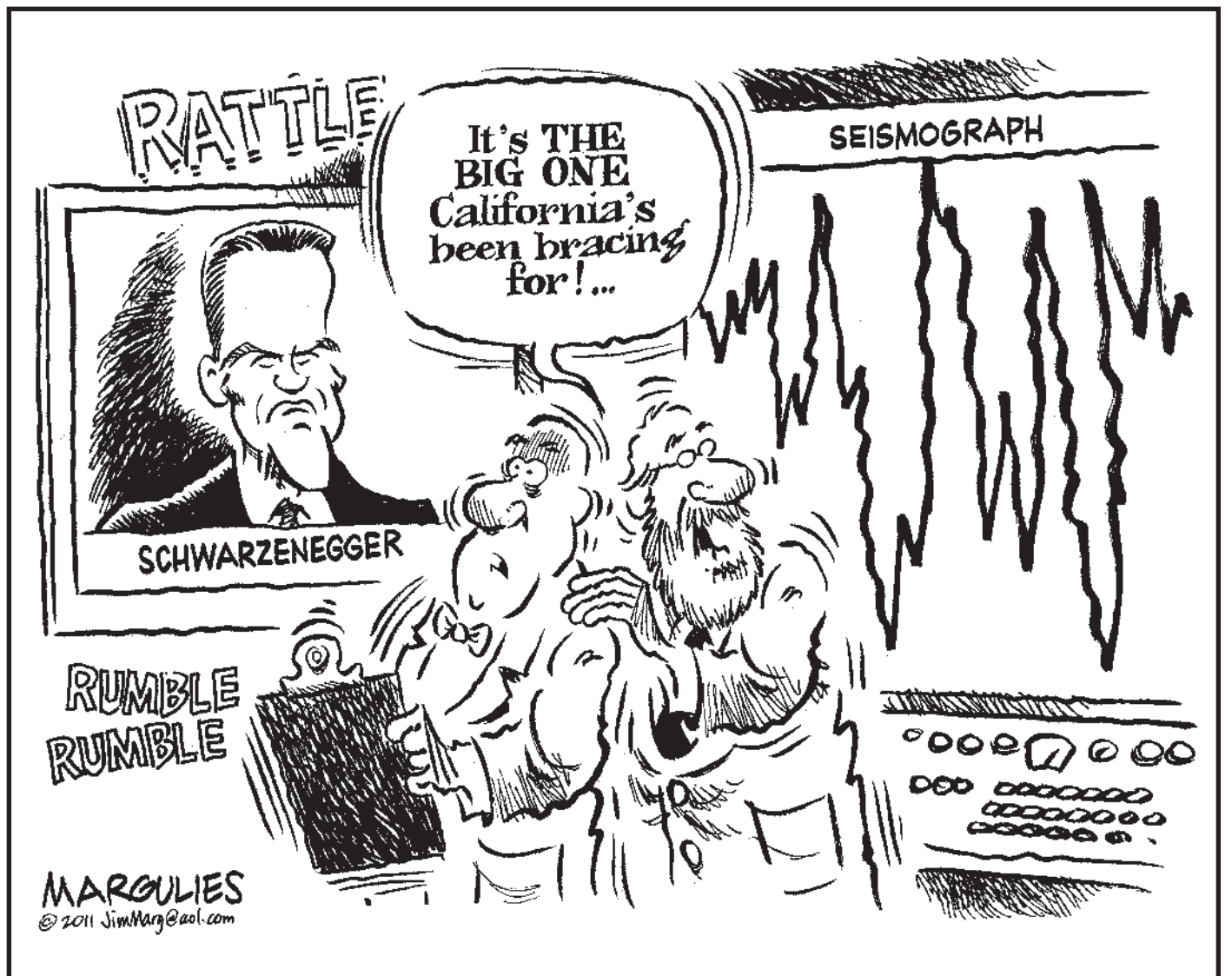
Some may consider Schwarzenegger's affair with the longtime household staffer irrelevant or private; after all, extramarital affairs are not necessarily the world's business, and the cheater in this case is no longer an elected official. Others may counter that even if it was a consensual relationship, it was an entirely inappropriate one because the woman in question relied on Schwarzenegger for her paycheck. The woman herself declined to comment Monday on the former governor's confession.

As for Shriver, she will no doubt be looked at by some as another in a long list of political wives who stood up for a husband whose personal behavior seems indefensible. And some will criticize her for that. But mostly, people will feel compassion for a woman whose life has been upended, whose children must be suffering and whose private crisis has become intensely public.

As a former politician and a celebrity who wants to resume an acting career, this is a crossroads for Schwarzenegger. So far, his best behavior appears to have been in supporting the child he fathered and in making a straightforward public admission of the facts (although only after he was questioned on the subject by reporters).

Whatever happens next, we hope he conducts himself with honesty and integrity, which appear to have been lacking in much of his behavior over the last few decades.

(c) 2011, Los Angeles Times.



Fiction sprinkled with truth doesn't equal reality

Daily we read in the newspapers about the discussions in the Legislature and hear inspiring wisdom from the Administration about how the economy will recover. We are bombarded about attempts to bring new investors and how the world of casinos is just waiting to pour prosperity upon us. We are led to believe that when these become real, all our problems will disappear and we will become prosperous again. Hallelujah!

But where do you and I play in all these equations? How will we, the man/woman in the street, prosper? How will we, who are not employed by the government, share in this largess? Will we have jobs waiting with decent salaries? How exactly will we share in this cornucopia given to us by casinos and investors?

Yes, I understand that more taxes equal more government employees and higher spending limits for the Legislature. More investors mean also that a handful of us will be able to skim off several big bucks for making the “right” connections. But where do you and I, the poor guy in the street, fit in? Will jobs be created for us from all this activity?

THE FIRST LAW OF POLITICS IS THAT WHAT MATTERS IS NOT WHAT IS ACTUALLY TRUE BUT RATHER WHAT VOTERS PERCEIVE TO BE TRUE!

My discussion this morning is not to knock any ideas that would spur economic growth. It's just that we have been misled time and time again. We are told that these quick fixes will put bread on our tables. Show me the economic growth that Tinian has received over the past ten years that a first class casino has brought them? Show me how investors have benefited you and me directly. Yes, some insiders have and will make a killing when the new investors come in.

Will someone please explain the logic in the following? Friday's *Tribune* headlines were: “Stanley fails to have local casino bill voted on right away.” Followed by bolder letters: “No Tinian casino revenue no, payroll.” “Medical referral partially suspended. Central government also has payless pay day for non-critical employees.” Then another article on the front page: “DPL to NEO GOLD WINGS: Pay up or no further lease talks.” Are these two—casinos and shady investors—our salvation?

Please tell me: Is this what we want for our future? When and where do we, the poor people who are struggling to make a decent living, work without working for the government? Must we resign ourselves to being government employees for all of our lives so that if we want to continue to earn a living we had better vote the right “guys” over and over?

I am sorry but I am so frustrated and depressed that we have stooped so low in our morals and given away our dignity. Are we just walking zombies?

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



True economic growth must benefit the entire community, not just the select few. We need ideas that will benefit all of us. True growth comes from the sweat of our brows and the labor of our hands! It is never given.

When are going to employ our own local employees for construction work on roads and various projects? When will we see an entire crew of local construction workers on a project? When will we have tradesmen and tradeswomen come into our homes to do the repairs, painting and other necessary maintenance work? When will hotels have local employees serving tourists that we long for? When will we begin to seriously replace non-resident workers? When will we stop the double-talk that: “Yes, we must do that,” and then go right on with business as usual?

When do we the citizens begin to receive jobs instead of shuffling them off to non-resident workers? When are we going to stop pushing the dream that employment is available only in the government sector and only if we vote for the “right” party?

Wednesday's newspaper had a sad headline: “Food Stamp Benefits Down by 35%!” What a sad commentary. Our food stamps allotment is being reduced by 35 percent. How worse does it have to get before we wake up and realize that we have the means to recover within our grasp. Look at this.

The land is our salvation. It will produce the needed fruits and vegetables we need to feed ourselves. The surplus we can ship to Guam who actually is growing less than we are and is increasingly depending on imports. For example, monthly it imports about \$2,600,715.00 fruits and vegetable. This equates to \$31,208,580 yearly. It imports \$809, 956 of pork monthly! It also imports crustacean, in shell at the rate of \$635, 145 monthly. But look it also imports \$32,752 worth of cut flowers! What! Can't we even sell them flowers?

As of 2007, Guam had only 104 farms while we in the CNMI had 256. In other words there are 150 percent more farms in the CNMI than in Guam. There are over 183,000 people, plus military, plus over 1,000,000 tourists per year. They need huge amounts of food

See FICTION on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Earth Healing Day

It was the second time that the question was asked of me here in China. “Are you saved?” The seriousness of the “evangelical” question comes at a time when some parts of the U.S. are sporting billboards announcing the end of the world on May 21. OK, it is an American Chamber gimmick, playful in some, opportunistically cynical in others, to get the fear-filled to spend their remaining buck before the Apocalypse. Still, there are serious contenders out there, reading esoteric numerology, or just plain ornery gringos, active players of the end-of-the-world game.

Let me back track. Thais are recalling events a year ago May 20, of what has since been dubbed as Thailand’s “unfinished revolution.” The PM is calling for a new electoral mandate so though the gentle folks of Siam had been skirmishing with the Khmers over a UNESCO heritage site at the border, its red and the yellow shirts remain intensely polarized. Libya, Yemen, Syria, and the UAE are burning midnight oil to get their political houses in order, so the doomsayers have fodder to usher Armageddon. But Judge Govendo gave the Marpi pole casters 90 days, so we are looking beyond Saturday!

Among meta-ecologists, the words of entropy and empathy are bandied about in Hegelian dialectical terms as foundational in nature and existence itself. Entropy heads toward cold demise, and empathy to warm exuberance; the one trades in the commerce of limits and the latter treads in the abundance of possibilities, the old psychological drive to die and the irrepressible impulse to live.

Entropic prophets are a dime a dozen but those drumming the advent of empathetic civilization are often caricatured as having heads up above the clouds. At first glance, the Earth Healing Day promoters last year seem to belong to the latter. But their prescription is simple. For one hour annually in mid-August, the whole world directs all psychic energy together on the healing of the plan-

et. Starting today, and every month thereafter, a head start precedes the August rendezvous.

“The Om that was heard around the world” is a catchy enough lead line and we take “Om” to be the basic human sound one makes when simultaneously inhaling and exhaling. Its religious practice came later, but the image is that of ‘creation’ groaning with glee to rebalance itself. (If the Christian salvific question heads in this direction, I do have a reply!)

In an era when we are recovering the physicality of human existence, we know that when a bacterial infection or viral contagion occurs, the body reacts with raised temperature along with dysfunctional discomfort until the internal balance between the atomic substance and the energy fields are once more aligned and in harmony (the image of a yin-yang in motion would be appropriate to make this point) in the body.

Thus, Om is not an inappropriate metaphor for the planet gleefully groaning to align its stressed systems and structures. Already, serious scientific minds are wondering whether the increased incidences of tornadoes and tsunamis, quakes and hurricanes, are not that of Mother Nature in the process of belching out vociferously her sacred “Om.”

If you are reading this, it means the end-of-the-world is yesterday’s news. Today, in a rather ancient mode of meditation, folks around the world are lifting up in spirit the fractured face of the familial Gaia. Om. Accompanying metaphors may sound alarmist but the issue is not the continuing existence of the planet; the continuance of the human specie is in question. The planet is 4.5 billion years old, and will be around another 1.5 before it loses heat and declines into antimatter. The battle of entropy and empathy is on the human evolution.

Signifikasion ayudon food stamps

Este na ayudu i food stamps sentidu na asuntu. Piot ‘nai ma-apunta huyunig i disbintahana pot ha fafama gaguria. Lau seha un’ ratu ya ta guadog i otru banda ha’ f taimanu na gumuaha este na programa guine yan hafa dichu rason that mañanau i tautau-ta.

I tautau ti u fan espiaha ausiliun kinanu’ familiaña ‘nai guaha petmanente checho’ña ya banidosu humutnat pot prebension familiaña. Ke sebayi ya u masahalom gi halom somnag sa’ patte gi offisioña ke ayu i para u fifila yan mamahlauña pot ha komprende na finachochu’ otru tautau i para u benefisia.

Signifikasion este na modun ayudu?

I promesa para mas adelantau yan homlu’ na kinalamten familia guine ti makomple nu i man-ma’gasta siha gi inestablesen fiñkas yan cho’chu’. Estague umabiba fuetsau i man-fafachochu’ pumañot minamahlau niha ‘nai ma’tot apottunidat ma-emplea. Ha pañot minamahlau niha ya ha atrebigue’ siha man-fila pot ayudon food stamps sa’ este uttimu na eskalera ‘nai siña hana’ fañochu familian niha.

Ta faisen i man-ma’gasta hafa machochogue para umana’ guaha mas fiñkas yan chochu’ guine para i tautautu? Man-ginacha’ induktu sa’ ti matagam i machuchuda’ na fiñkas antes pot katsu pot siakassu na lotgun i paire na ekonomia.

Ni unu duda na huñgan umatlibes pagu i ekonomian tano’ta ‘nai mas marebaha rinikohen kontribusion tax pot megai na bisnis humuchom pettan niha. Gi este na sakudida, kontodu empleau siha mana’ fan para man-machochu’ sa tinahonig ganansia para u katsu operasion bisnis. Estague’ na diskuidu masusede ya ni unu humassu

muna’ sahñge para ‘an mattu tiempon chata’an.

Pagu, man-e’ensinahyau hit kume bira tatte i kanai rilos gi hagas homlu yan lagse’ na kinalamtem makinarian ekonomia. Mampos atrasau piot ‘nai maliñgu konfiansan kometsiante (investors) siha ginen hioyong. Hu faisen, sin disension, kometsiante Japones hafa na megai man-hanau na bisnis guine gi alacha ginen iya Marianas. Ilegña un’ prohimu: “Señor, ‘nai esta hokog kampu mamatinas ganansia gi operasion bisnis guine, taya’ rason na para bai’n fañasaga ha’ dibatde”.

Un’ manadan areglu guine ni kontra yan bisnis, iya hululu’ i mureye’ na modun areglu siha ‘nai pagu mauleg, agupa’ baba. Ti fitme i areglu siha ya sumen makat gi bandan bisnis i kadaratu matulaika hinasson i fumatinas areglu siha, era i lehislatura. Mamahlaoyu’ nu i ineppen amiguhu Japones lau mas ke trenta años desde ke bumisnis guine. Ma’pos tatte Japon yan hafa tetehnan piniloña gi bañku.

Kulan un’ malañgu gi ICU. Tat seguru na u magoñg chenotña, ni tam paku asegurai na siña mamokat yangin felis ya numa’lu tatte. Mampos na diskuidu i taya’ inadahe siakassu na man-basnag hit.

■ ■ ■

Komprendiyun na sumen makat ma-adelanta ekonomian isla piot sa’ tai fiñkas, dikiki i tanu’, memegaiña tasi ya i obra pot mampos appenas naturat na mina.

Pot essu na guaha kampu gi korasonhu para ayu i umatrebi siha mana’ oppan inefresen lañget lau ni siha mismu tatnai magacha’ ennau na eskalera.

Guiya este i huegon politika, un’ finatsu gi papa’ sisteman de-

construction work. The other is to farm our land and export the excess fruits and vegetables to Guam. Both are in our immediate grasp.

Over the past two years, I and an associate have been shipping some fruits, vegetables and shrimp to various customers in Guam to test the market. By doing this we have proven two points. One is that the quality of our fruits, vegetables, and shrimp is well received in the Guam market. But we must break the high cost of shipping. It is a stranglehold that unless we break it, we will continue to choke.

Shipping cost whether by air or sea is outrageous! Sea freight has risen ridiculously high. Both sea cargo and air cargo are not only too high priced but have irregular shipments so that no business can rely or depend when the goods will arrive.

Recently we shipped 266 pound of fruits and vegetables to Guam for a total shipping cost of \$334.11. In other words it cost \$1.25 per pound. At another time we shipped 554 pounds of fruits and vegetables to Guam for a freight cost of \$553.36 or \$1.49 per pound.

This you will enjoy. Freight from Chuuk to Guam is only \$0.76

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



The civilized human face has only been around less than ten thousand years, and though we might have evolved as the nerve indicator of the planet, we are rather dispensable in the grander scheme of things. Of course, we are stupidly stubborn in our entropic ways. Here’s a quote from Washington: “Chinese military modernization is the major long-term threat that the U.S. must prepare for in the Asia-Pacific region, and robotic vehicles — aerial and subsurface—are increasingly critical to countering that potential threat.” This week’s AP story that carried it goes on: China is decades away from building a military as strong as America’s, but it is developing air, naval and missile capabilities that could challenge U.S. supremacy in the Pacific—and with it, America’s ability to protect important shipping lanes and allies such as Japan and South Korea (*italics added*).

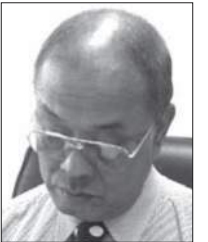
We practice politics of fear, of military strategy predicated on Armageddon. CNMI’s raison d’être hinges on this policy, being of strategic Pentagon value, archaic as that may sound. Entropy is entrenched; androids and drones heading to the production line, but CNMI sons and daughters are still slated for the front lines. At least, we will have a lighted veteran’s cemetery for the sacrificial lambs.

I am sending my empathetic energy to Gaia. Om!

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



mokrasia, un’ didog na finatsu gi isлата siha ‘nai taya’ fiñas ‘nai siña ha katsun ñaihon hit.

Lau gi mismu tiempu, gaige Japon gi hilo’ta, un’ dikiki na nasyon ni tai fiñkas lokue. Lau kumalamten ya hana’ halom ginen hioyong todou mina ni ha nesessita para u hatsa ekonomiaña. Makat na kontrariu para hita piot sa’ politika ha’ tiniño’ta, politika ‘nai man-hogagandu hit hugeten para man-amku’.

Ayu na tai esperansayu’ na guaha satton mauleg para umasusede sa’ sige ha’ tañgañgas i mismu cha’ guan kulan man-manæ’ hit tiyan guaka. Tana’ bulala halom gi haane. Dispues tañgañgas ‘an pupueñge ya ta talon muñgasñgas tula noche.

Lau fiet hu nanaña un’ prohimu para u tachu kulan Moises (Moses) para u kilili yan esgaihon i tautautu huyunig ginen Ehipton linala’ esklablon ekonomia ni masusede pagu. Siempre este u kahulu’ gi entalo’ta gi karera mona. Tafan asusene sa’ mas makat tafafana’ ke hafa ta susesede pagu. Si Yuus Maase’!

per pound for fish. But the air freight for fish from the CNMI to Guam is \$1.27 per pound. What?

The conclusion is that current transportation options are inadequate to meet growth requirements. Air cargo is too expensive between the islands. Ocean freight requires large amounts of cargo to be economical. For example, a 20-foot container carries 30,000 lbs. Air cargo capacity is limited and infrequent. CPA port charges are high compared to other ports (Guam). It costs \$1,200 to just load a container onto a ship. So what do we do to crush the stranglehold? Stay tuned in; it is coming. We will continue this discussion later.

I wish to leave our conversation this morning with this quote from a Chinese intellectual and artist Ai Weiwei:

“Everybody has worries, but being scared will not help the situation. More people need to speak out and participate.”

Until you and I begin to become actively involved in restoring jobs and demanding change, our economic bleakness will remain and get even darker. Have a great day!

FICTION

From Page 10

and we can supply it to them fresher than from the United States and in the same quality and at a competitive price. But we must work hard to get their market.






Estimated imports for Guam on an annual basis: \$41,084, 880.00. Imagine just selling them just 5 percent of their needs: \$2,054,244.00. Image the income in vegetable sales of over \$90,000 monthly to our farmers. Locally caught fish could contribute over \$90,000 monthly to our local fishermen. Currently we are growing about 902,808 pounds of vegetable annually plus fruit. But are we approaching Guam to buy our products? Why not? The above is only one method to increasing our sales of fruits and vegetable.

Economic growth demands concern with creating jobs for our people now! We have two avenues. One is to begin doing our own

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼81
Palau	Rain	▲85 ▼77
Yap	Rain	▲85 ▼77
Chuuk	Rain	▲82 ▼77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲85 ▼76
Kosrae	Rain	▲88 ▼79
Majuro	Rain	▲85 ▼77

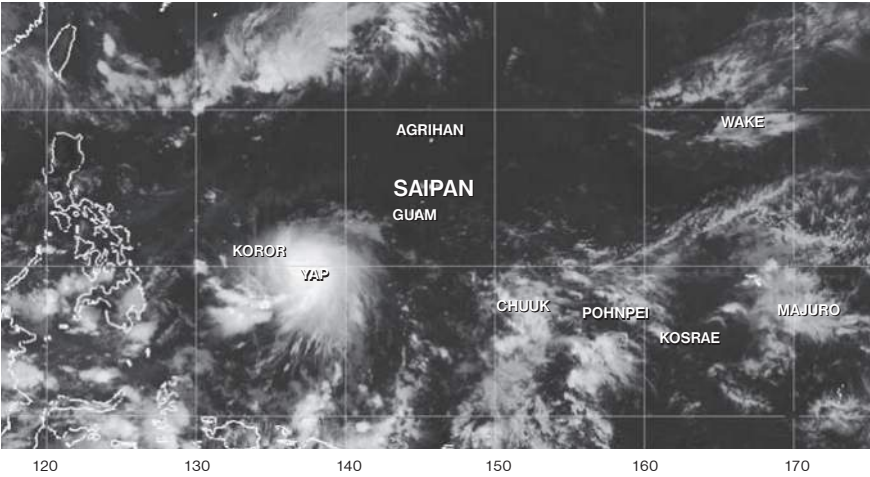
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲63 ▼53
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼62
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲84 ▼78
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲84 ▼74
London	Mostly Sunny	▲65 ▼51
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲66 ▼55
Manila	Thundershowers	▲91 ▼80
Melbourne	Showers	▲54 ▼48
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼76
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲74 ▼65
Osaka	Showers	▲71 ▼61
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲70 ▼50
Pusan	Cloudy	▲70 ▼58
Rome	Showers	▲78 ▼59
Salem	Showers	▲60 ▼45
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲57 ▼50
Seoul	Cloudy	▲76 ▼55
Tokyo	Showers	▲67 ▼60
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼68

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
12:48 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
6:36 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet	
10:52 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet	
6:19 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends eastward from 10N130E to end at Tropical Storm Songda (04W) centered 125 miles west-northwest of Yap at 10N136E. Tropical Storm Songda is moving west-northwestward at 6 mph with maximum sustained winds of 50 mph. Numerous showers and scattered thunderstorms are found at Yap within 150 miles of 10N138E. Converging winds south and southwest of Songda are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Koror between 5N and 7N from 131E to 141E. For more detailed information on Tropical Storm Songda (04W). See bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and by the National Weather Service Guam under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. A surface trough stretches northeastward from 23N130E to beyond 25N at 133E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring within 100 miles of a line from 21N130E to 25N138E. A surface trough runs southwestward from 10N152E to 1N147E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found within 70 miles of a line from EQ144E to 6N145E and farther east within an area bounded by a line from EQ147E to 10N150E to 10N160E to 3N160E to EQ157E back to EQ147E. This area includes Chuuk and Pohnpei. A trade-wind disturbance is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over the Marshall Islands within 150 miles of a line from 13N168E to 6N170E to 4N180. An upper-level trough extends northeastward from 19N159E to beyond 25N at 163E. Divergence south of the trough is combining with low-level convergence to trigger a few thunderstorms near Wake Island within 70 miles of a line from 18N163E to 19N169E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47 AM	6:41 PM
Tuesday	5:47 AM	6:41 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:45 PM	10:53 AM
Tuesday		11:43 AM
Wednesday	12:23 AM	12:30 PM
Thursday	12:59 AM	1:17 PM
Friday	1:34 AM	2:03 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	0Z607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1	0Z603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	0Z605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU590	4:30am	7:20am	2, 6	MU589	8:50pm	3:30am+1	1, 5
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 5	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 4	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	0Z704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	0Z702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09313/933	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM	0Z702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
0Z604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	0Z750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM	5K169	9:55am	5:00pm	2, 5, 7
5K168	3:25pm	6:35pm	1, 4, 6	0Z722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	0Z722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana				ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)			

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 400	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Rota High School student accepted to national society of scholars

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rota High School junior student Mariah Josanna M. Barcinas has been selected for membership in the National Society of High School Scholars after she achieved excellence in her academics.

The organization, formed in

2002, recognizes top scholars in the United States and territories for demonstrating academic excellence in their studies.

Barcinas is the daughter of Randolph and Marla Ann Barcinas.

Her acceptance to the society was recently announced by NSHSS founder and chairman Claes Nobel, a senior member

of the family that established the Nobel Prizes.

"On behalf of NSHSS, I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that Mariah has demonstrated to achieve this level of academic excellence. She is now a member of a unique community of scholars—a community that represents our very best

hope for the future," said Nobel in his letter to Barcinas.

According to society president James Lewis it is the organization's vision to build a dynamic international organization that connects members with meaningful content, resources, and opportunities. It also aims to help students like Barcinas build on their aca-



Barcinas

petitions, free events, member-only resources, online forums, and many others.

The organization has more than 530,000 society members in over 160 countries.

Saipan Tribune learned that Barcinas has also been accepted into the STEP-UP, or the short-term education program for underrepresented persons. She will undergo the summer research program in the areas of diabetes, endocrinology, metabolism, nutrition, obesity, and others.

The junior student will be on Saipan for nine days of clinical and basic research education and training during this summer period.

On Aug. 10, she will be attending the National STEP-UP symposium in Bethesda, Maryland. The symposium is through Aug. 14.

Land surveyor allegedly owes US govt \$153K over mail fraud conviction

Land surveyor Candido I. Castro has a total remaining balance of \$153,783.68 to the U.S. government as of Aug. 20, 2010 in connection with his conviction in a 1999 mail fraud case, according to court documents filed in federal court.

Assistant U.S. attorney Jessica F. Cruz stated in her declaration that, at the time of sentencing, Castro's federal debt under the judgment was \$100 in special assessment fee, \$100,000 in restitution, \$30,000 fine, \$14,615.92 in incarceration costs, and \$9,118.44 in supervision costs, or for a total of \$153,834.36.

Cruz said that, as of Aug. 20, 2010, the defendant has paid the special assessment fee in full and \$24,400 towards restitution.

Cruz said the accrued interest on Aug. 10, 2010 on the restitution balance of \$75,700 was \$18,017.40 and the accrued interest on the remaining balance of the \$30,000 fine was \$6,331.92.

The lawyer said the defendant's total remaining balance on the judgment as of Aug. 20, 2010 is \$0 special assessment fee, \$75,700 in restitution principal, \$18,017.40 in restitution interest, \$30,000 in fine principal, \$6,331.92 in fine interest, and \$23,734.36 in incarceration and supervision costs, or for a total of \$153,783.68.

In April 2002, Castro was sentenced to eight months in prison and ordered to pay \$130,100 in monetary penalties for mail fraud.

In October 2008, the U.S. government sued Castro for the transfer of his lands on Tinian to his son to allegedly defraud the U.S. in its effort to collect \$179,418 in connection with the

mail fraud case.

In March 2009, Castro filed a bankruptcy 7 petition in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Under Bankruptcy Chapter 7, most assets of the debtor are liquidated as quickly as possible to pay off his creditors to the extent possible and to free the debtor to start anew. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

◀ Belated happy anniversary to our loving parents who celebrated their 12th year anniversary last May 21. Love from your daughters.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

▶ Birthday greetings go out to our beauty queen Vaniqa Marie Tudela Torres who turns 3 years old today. We love you Bambam! From Dad, Mom, Ralphie, and Deon Titus.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP11-DOF-092**

SUBMISSION DATE: DATE: JUNE 16, 2011 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

**"IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM UPGRADE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE"**

THE SCOPE OF THIS PROJECT MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE CNMI ARRA STATE LEAD LOCATED ON THE THIRD (3RD) FLOOR OF THE MARIANAS BUSINESS PLAZA OFFICE #315, SUSUPE OR REQUESTED VIA E-MAIL TO financial_mgmt_upgrade@recovery.gov.mp.

A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON **JUNE 08, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M.** AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DRIVE.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY VIA E-MAIL TO financial_mgmt_upgrade@recovery.gov.mp NO LATER THAN CLOSE OF BUSINESS **JUNE 03, 2011**.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT

/s/ **LARISSA C. LARSON**
ACTING SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

/s/ **MICHAEL J. ADA**
CNMI ARRA STATE LEAD



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-11-037

EXHAUST HEAT RECOVERY PROJECT ORGANIC RANKINE CYCLE (ORC)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced companies or IPPs, to supply electrical energy produced from commercially proven Exhaust Heat Recovery systems (Organic Rankine Cycle), for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation. The heat recovery system will be tied to the exhaust systems on diesel engines at Power Plant No.1 in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC seeks responses from qualified developers from which the CUC intends to select one respondent to negotiate Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) and install Exhaust Heat Recovery systems that best fit the CUC's requirements.

The Scope of Services requested in the Request for Proposal shall include, but not be limited to, any permits and approvals from governing agencies, and providing all labor, services and equipment necessary to design, procure, install, construct, test, commission, monitor, operate, and maintain fully the Exhaust Heat Recovery Systems.

The RFP package and Scope-of-Service will be e-mailed to all interested Offeror, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 200.00 for one set; by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 22, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**, at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-RFP-11-037 Exhaust Heat Recovery Project**" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **August 18, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Late submissions will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **July 19, 2011** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director, Power Generation/Distribution, via email address wallon59@yahoo.com. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS WATER TASK FORCE RFP11-GOV-077



Leak Detection and Repairs – Phase 4

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Proposals from qualified consulting and/or construction firms for the field survey, identification, and repair of water system deficiencies in the Garapan Tourist Center, Garapan and surrounding areas. The selected firm(s) shall use specialized leak detection methods in conjunction with on call construction services and information from the recently completed Lower MIHA and Chalan Kanoa/Susupe Leak Detection and Repair Contracts on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project Scope of Work will be available at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, on or after **May 2, 2011**.

All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 pm, **May 13, 2011** to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager (facsimile) number (670) 664-2279.

This project is funded by a grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), Department of Commerce and the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from EDA and OIA.

The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is not available to local proposers in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Four (4) copies plus one original of the sealed Proposals must be submitted to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than **2:00 p.m., (CNMI local time), on June 1, 2011**.

Proposals must be sealed and marked "**Leak Detection and Repairs – Phase 4, RFP11-GOV-077**". For proposers within the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **2:00 p.m., (CNMI local time), on June 1, 2011**. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than **2:00 p.m., (CNMI local time), on June 1, 2011**, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or email procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and four (4) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **June 1, 2011 AND** must be received no later than **June 10, 2011**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so shall be in the best interests of the CNMI. All Proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Benigno R. Fitial
Governor, CNMI

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

Business

Germany voices support for Lagarde's IMF bid

BERLIN (AP)—Germany's finance minister on Saturday added to a chorus of calls for France's Christine Lagarde to become a new leader of the International Monetary Fund.

Lagarde has emerged as a front-runner to replace Dominique Strauss-Kahn, also of France, who resigned this week to face charges in New York that he tried to rape a hotel maid. He denies the charges.

Germany's Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Lagarde would give Europe its best chance to again lead the fund. Chancellor Angela Merkel called her a "distinguished" and "very experienced" personality.

"Europe would have the best chance to secure the post again with Christine Lagarde, if she decides to run," Schaeuble told the German weekly Bild am Sonntag.

He was quoted as saying that Lagarde was "outstandingly qualified" and "extremely respected and appreciated in the entire financial world."

Schaeuble and Merkel said that it is crucial that all Europeans now rally behind a candidate.

Merkel on Saturday stopped short of formally endorsing Lagarde but said she was a "distinguished" and "very experienced" personality.

The IMF insists that Strauss-



France's Finance and Economy Minister Christine Lagarde visits a Parisian supermarket and goods retailer in Paris Thursday May 19, 2011. AP

Kahn's departure has not hurt its day-to-day operations, but it is clearly under pressure to find a successor fast to lead an organization that provides billions in loans to stabilize the world economy.

The 24-member executive board, which will pick Strauss-Kahn's successor, held a preliminary discussion on Friday at the IMF's headquarters in Washington. They said in a statement late Friday

that the selection of the fund's new Managing Director will be completed by the end of next month.

But many say the fund—shaken by Strauss-Kahn's abrupt departure while it plays

a crucial role in Europe's ongoing sovereign debt crisis—needs to get a new leader even faster to get his job done.

The chairman of the organization's policy advisory committee, Singapore's Finance

Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam, said the IMF is facing pressing challenges and speedy selection of a new leader would be good.

The selection process to find a new IMF chief should be open, transparent and merit-based, the chairman of the IMF's International Monetary and Financial Committee said in a statement Saturday.

A U.S. Treasury official earlier this week said the United States had not decided whether to support Lagarde or a non-European for the job.

The European Union's 27 members combined hold the biggest IMF stake, but emerging economies see Europe's traditional stranglehold on the position as increasingly out of touch with the world economy.

However, they have not yet united around a candidate.

Lagarde's chances for the job got a boost Friday when Kemal Dervis, a former finance minister for Turkey who had been considered the leading non-European candidate, said he did not want to be considered for the position.

Germany's Schaeuble also defended the decades-old agreement under which an American gets to lead the World Bank and a European its sister institution, the IMF.

Smartphone app lets workers track wages

WASHINGTON (AP)—Workers who don't trust the boss to keep track of their wages can now do it themselves with a new smartphone application from the Department of Labor. But employers worry that the time sheet app, along with other new initiatives, could encourage even more wage and hour lawsuits.

The app, called DOL-Timesheet, lets workers calculate regular work hours, break time and overtime pay to create their own wage records. Department officials say the

information could prove valuable in a dispute over pay or during a government investigation when an employer has failed to keep accurate records.

"This app will help empower workers to understand and stand up for their rights when employers have denied their hard-earned pay," Labor Secretary Hilda Solis said.

The app is the latest example of the Obama administration's push for more aggressive enforcement of wage and hour laws. The agency has hired about 300 more investigators

to probe complaints of unpaid work time, lack of overtime pay and minimum wage violations.

Last year, the agency began a "Bridge to Justice" program that, for the first time, helps connect aggrieved workers with private lawyers if the department's Wage and Hour Division is too busy to handle a complaint.

As a result, legal experts say, wage and hour compliance has become a leading concern for employers as the new policies help drive up litigation over unpaid wages, also known as wage theft.

"The government is focusing on it like never before," said Gerald Maatman, an employer-side labor lawyer based in Chicago. "I think the mantra is kind of, 'All enforcement, all the time, 24/7.'"

Workers brought a record number of wage and hour suits against employers last year, according to an analysis of court filings by Maatman's firm, Seyfarth Shaw. Nearly 6,800 such suits were filed in 2010, about 700 more than the previous year. Most were collective or class actions.

"The concern is that the Department of Labor is putting a lot more attention into this area and employers, at the same time, are putting more hours, more money and more work into auditing and complying with wage and hour laws," Maatman said. "It's turning into somewhat of a

full-time job."

The stepped up enforcement is a change from the Bush administration, when some critics accused President George W. Bush's labor secretary, Elaine Chao, of favoring businesses and weakening job safety and enforcement efforts.

Most German nuclear power plants off the grid

BERLIN (AP)—More than three-quarters of Germany's nuclear power plants were offline Saturday due to maintenance work or shutdowns ordered by the government after Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant disaster, utility companies said.

Only four of the country's 17 nuclear power plants were online after the energy utility RWE AG took its Emsland plant off the grid Saturday.

Environmentalists accused the utilities of staging simultaneous maintenance shutdowns while threatening blackouts

to put pressure on Chancellor Angela Merkel's government, which appears determined in the wake of the Fukushima Dai-ichi catastrophe to phase out nuclear power within a good decade.

"We are afraid that the utilities could intentionally stage a blackout to influence people in the debate on phasing out nuclear power," said Jochen Stay of anti-nuclear group Ausgestrahlt.

A spokesman for RWE rejected the allegation, however, telling German news agency DAPD the maintenance at Ems-

land had been scheduled even before the disaster in Japan.

Experts said the situation was potentially worrisome, since a significantly lower electricity input could change the grid's overall voltage and in the worst case lead to blackouts.

"The situation will probably be manageable," the head of Germany's DENA electricity grid agency, Matthias Kurth, was quoted as saying in Saturday's Sueddeutsche Zeitung newspaper. "The situation would be worse if we didn't have that much sun at the

moment" - a reference to the growing amount of electricity generated by solar panels across the country.

To compensate, Germany is likely to import more electricity from its neighbors, chiefly from France and the Czech Republic, which both rely heavily on nuclear power.

Germany, Europe's biggest economy, stands alone among the world's leading industrialized nations in its determination to ditch nuclear power and replace it with renewable energies.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

S&P: Italy ratings outlook negative on debt fears

ROME (AP)—Standard & Poors cut its ratings outlook for Italy's debt from stable to negative Saturday, citing the country's poor growth prospects and concerns about the government's ability to reduce public borrowing. The revision means there's a one-in-three chance that Italy's debt ratings could be downgraded in the next two years, raising fears that the debt crises that have struck Greece, Portugal and Ireland could be threatening Italy.

Senator probes trades at hedge fund SAC Capital

Republican Sen. Charles Grassley is investigating about 20 instances of suspicious trading by the hedge fund SAC Capital, a spokesman

for the senator confirmed Saturday. Grassley, R-Iowa, requested the information about the trades from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), an independent regulator of brokerage firms. SAC is a large Stamford, Conn.-based hedge fund founded by billionaire Steven Cohen. (AP)

Regulators shut 2 Ga. banks, 1 in Wash state

WASHINGTON (AP)—Regulators shut two banks in Georgia and a smaller bank in Washington state Friday, lifting to 43 the number of U.S. bank failures this year in the wake of a gutted economy and mounds of soured loans. The pace of closures has slowed, however, as the economy improves and banks work their way through the bad debt. By this time last year, regulators had closed 73 banks.

Nation

Apocalypse believers await end, skeptics carry on

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—They spent months warning the world of the apocalypse, some giving away earthly belongings or draining their savings accounts. And so they waited, vigilantly, on Saturday for the appointed hour to arrive.

When 6 p.m. came and went across the United States and various spots around the globe, and no extraordinary cataclysm occurred, some believers expressed confusion, while others reassured each of their faith. Still, some others took it in stride.

"I had some skepticism but I was trying to push the skepticism away because I believe in God," said Keith Bauer—who hopped in his minivan in Maryland and drove his family 3,000 miles to California for the Rapture.

He started his day in the bright morning sun outside the gated Oakland headquarters of Family Radio International, whose founder, Harold Camping, has been broadcasting the apocalyptic prediction for years.

"I was hoping for it because I think heaven would be a lot better than this earth," said Bauer,

a tractor-trailer driver who began the voyage west last week, figuring that if he "worked last week, I wouldn't have gotten paid anyway, if the Rapture did happen."

The May 21 doomsday message was sent far and wide via broadcasts and websites by Camping, an 89-year-old retired civil engineer who has built a multi-million-dollar Christian media empire that publicizes his apocalyptic prediction. According to Camping, the destruction was likely to have begun its worldwide march as it became 6 p.m. in the various time zones, although some believers said Saturday the exact timing was never written in stone.

In New York's Times Square, Robert Fitzpatrick, of Staten Island, said he was surprised when the six o'clock hour simply came and went. He had spent his own money to put up advertising about the end of the world.

"I can't tell you what I feel right now," he said, surrounded by tourists. "Obviously, I haven't understood it correctly

As water inches closer, an agonizing wait in La.

BUTTE LAROSE, La. (AP)—The final wave of holdouts has mostly packed up and left this Louisiana town as water from the swollen Atchafalaya River has inched toward their homes, with their frustration and hope painted on signs posted outside. "Nothing left worth stealing," read one. "Stay strong. Believe," urged another. "Our hearts are broken, but our spirits are not. We will come HOME," are the words Kip and Gwen Bacquet spray-painted on the plastic liner that covers the entire first floor of their house.

Most had left Butte LaRose days earlier amid high tension as the water continued creeping toward the area, about 45 miles

west of Baton Rouge.

The Army Corps of Engineers partially opened the Mississippi River's Morganza floodway May 14 to spare Baton Rouge and New Orleans from catastrophic flooding, but the water it was diverting from the Mississippi River into the Atchafalaya Basin still hadn't reached the town nearly a week later.

While Mississippi communities that line their namesake river were waiting for floodwaters to recede Saturday, Louisiana residents in the path of diverted waters were enduring an agonizing wait.

In St. Martin's Parish, La., a mandatory evacuation was or-



David Kirk, Carlos Munoz and Pete Erwin, with his Jesus figure, gather in front of the closed radio station offices of evangelist Harold Camping along with others, to celebrate irreverently, the non-destruction of the world predicted by Camping, Saturday, May 21, 2011 in Oakland, Calif.

because we're still here."

Many followers said the delay was a further test from God to persevere in their faith.

"It's still May 21 and God's going to bring it," said Family Radio's special projects coor-

dered to take effect Saturday, only to be pushed back at least two days after officials said the river would crest May 27 at a lower level than previously thought. Meanwhile, communities along the Mississippi River in Mississippi wait for floodwaters to recede.

The delayed evacuation in St. Martin's Parish, La. is likely to be a source of both optimism and further frustration for residents who have heard the same grim forecast for days on end. Once the water comes, residents may not be able to return for weeks. They'll have to wait until Monday for officials to decide whether to reinstate the evacuation order.

dinator Michael Garcia, who spent Saturday morning praying and drinking two last cups of coffee with his wife at home in Alameda. "When you say something and it doesn't happen, your pride is what's hurt. But who needs pride? God said he resists the proud and gives grace to the humble."

The Internet was alive with discussion, humorous or not, about the end of the world and its apparent failure to occur on cue. Many tweets declared Camping's prediction a dud or shared, tongue-in-cheek, their relief at not having to do weekend chores or take a shower.

The top trends on Twitter

at midday included, at No. 1, "endofworldconfessions," followed by "myraptureplaylist."

As 6 p.m. approached in California, some 100 people gathered outside Family Radio International headquarters in Oakland, although it appeared none of the believers of the prophecy were among them. Camping's radio stations, TV channels, satellite broadcasts and website are controlled from a modest building sandwiched between an auto shop and a palm reader's business.

Christian leaders from across the spectrum widely dismissed the prophecy, and members of a local church concerned fol-

Europe: Obama tends to old allies, new challenges

WASHINGTON (AP)—Weaving together strands of pomp, policy and summitry, President Barack Obama's weeklong European tour is all about tending to old friends in the Western alliance and securing their help with daunting challenges, from the political upheaval in the Mideast and North Africa to the protracted war in Afghanistan.

Obama's eighth trip to Europe as president, with a quick-moving itinerary that dips into four countries in six days, unfolds against the backdrop of the NATO-led bombing campaign in Libya and stubborn economic weakness on both sides of the Atlantic.

A priority for the president and his allies will be to more clearly define the West's role in promoting stability and democracy in the Arab world without being overly meddlesome and within tight financial limitations.

Obama, who departs late Sunday, will visit Ireland, England, France and Poland. Each is weathering an economic downturn that has forced Eu-

ropean nations to adopt strict austerity measures. The U.S. has pushed its national debt to the limit, and Obama and congressional Republicans are in contentious talks about how steeply to cut spending.

But never mind all that, at least for a moment.

A highlight of Obama's opening stop in Ireland will be a feel-good pilgrimage to the hamlet of Moneygall, where America's first black president will explore his Irish - yes, Irish - roots, and most likely raise a pint.

It turns out that Falmouth Kearney, who immigrated to the United States in 1850 at the age of 19, is the great great grandfather of Obama on his white, Kansas-born mother's side. Obama, whose father was born in Kenya, will connect in Moneygall with distant relatives from the Irish branch of his family tree.

Michael Collins, the Irish ambassador to the United States, says the president's visit will be "a golden moment" for a country that's been on the economic ropes after its boom time. The visit is sure to play well at home

lowers could slip into a deep depression come Sunday were part of the crowd outside Family Radio International. They held signs declaring Camping a false prophet as motorists drove by.

"The cold, hard reality is going to hit them that they did this, and it was false and they basically emptied out everything to follow a false teacher," the Rev. Jacob Denys, of the Milpitas-based Calvary Bible Church, said earlier. "We're not all about doom and gloom. Our message is a message of salvation and of hope."

About a dozen people in a partying mood were also outside Family Radio International, creating a carnival-like atmosphere as they strolled in a variety of costumes that portrayed monks, Jesus Christ and other figures.

"Am I relieved? Yeah. I've got a lot going on," Peter Erwin, a student from Oakland, said, with a hint of sarcasm. "Trying to get specific about the end of the world is crazy."

Revelers counted down the seconds before the anticipated hour, and people began dancing to music as the clock struck 6 p.m. Some released shoe-shaped helium balloons into the sky in an apparent reference to the Rapture.

Camping has preached that some 200 million people would be saved, and that those left behind would die in a series of scourges visiting Earth until the globe is consumed by a fireball on Oct. 21.

for Obama - make that O'bama - as he heads into re-election season after being pushed to great lengths simply to prove he was born on U.S. soil.

After his day in Ireland, Obama spends two in England, where he and first lady Michelle Obama will be treated to all the pomp and pageantry that the monarchy can muster for the president's first European state visit. The Obamas even get a Buckingham Palace sleepover.

Though the United States and Britain remain the closest of allies, the relationship has been strained by recent events, including last year's oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico triggered by the explosion of an oil rig owned by British-based BP. Britain's unilateral announcement of a timetable for withdrawal of its 10,000 troops from Afghanistan also rankled the United States.

Heather Conley, director of the Europe program at the private Center for Strategic and International Studies, said Obama's stop in Britain could help "put the 'special' back into the U.S.-U.K. special relationship."

ACROSS THE NATION

Minn. voters will decide on gay marriage ban

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—The Minnesota House signed off late Saturday on a proposed constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage, clearing the way for voters to decide the issue in 2012. After nearly six hours of emotional debate, mostly from ban opponents, the House voted 70-62 to approve putting the question on the statewide ballot next year. A handful of Republicans joined all but one Democrat in voting against it. State law already prohibits gay marriage, but supporters of the proposed amendment said it's necessary to prevent judges or future lawmakers from making it legal in Minnesota. Critics said the plan is divisive and would put discrimination into the constitution.

Tornado reported in Kan. town, 20 homes destroyed

READING, Kan. (AP)—Authorities say a tornado has swept through a small eastern Kansas town, destroying at least 20 homes and damag-

ing 200 others. It wasn't immediately clear late Saturday whether anyone was injured when the tornado hit Reading, a town about 50 miles south of Topeka. A spokeswoman for the Kansas Division of Emergency Management says local authorities are setting up shelters. Spokeswoman Sharon Watson says severe storms were rolling across northeast Kansas late Saturday, spawning funnel clouds and baseball-sized hail. The tornado was reported around 9:15 p.m.

Earthquake shakes SF Bay Area

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—People across the San Francisco Bay Area felt the rumblings of a small earthquake on Saturday night, but there were no reports of any damages or injuries. The magnitude-3.6 earthquake struck just before 7:05 p.m. and was centered near the city of Hercules at a depth of about 5 1/2 miles, according to a preliminary report from the United States Geological Survey. The epicenter was about eight miles north of Berkeley and 17 miles northeast of San Francisco's Civic Center.

Asia

Vietnamese voters cast ballots for parliament

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—From candidates' resumes read in dead tone across crackling corner loudspeakers to propaganda art depicting smiling grandmothers dropping ballots in the box, Vietnam's government urged everyone to participate in the "right and obligation of all citizens" during Sunday's parliamentary elections.

Though the fanfare leading up to the polling was grand, with parades and red banners streaming across roadways proclaiming, "Long live the glorious Communist Party of Vietnam," the 500 members elected to the law-making National Assembly will not alter the country's direction regardless of who's selected. And as soaring food and energy prices continue to stab poor voters, the only real change many here care about is taking a breath of economic relief.

All of the 827 candidates have already been vetted by the Fatherland Front, a powerful party umbrella organization, and 86 percent of those running are Communist Party members—in a country where publicly calling for a multiparty system can result in long jail sentences.

Ninety-eight percent of the candidates were picked by the Fatherland Front, with only 15 nominating themselves and then winning the organization's nod to run.

Two or three candidates are picked by voters in each district from the four or five on the ballot. Turnout for the election held every four years is typically



An old man checks out the list of candidates at a polling station in central Hanoi, Vietnam on Sunday, May 22, 2011.

high since voting is mandatory, but many people vote without ever setting foot in a polling station. It's common for one family member to cast ballots for everyone in the household.

"I'm struggling to make ends meet," said Nguyen Thi Chinh, 68, from northern Thanh Hoa province, who's been selling newspapers in the capital, Hanoi, for four years. "My husband will vote for me and our two children."

Chinh manages to save 5,000 dong (25 cents) to 10,000 dong (50 cents) a day to send back to

her family—all that's left after she spends up to six times that amount on food and cheap housing.

Many Vietnamese have little interest in elections or other Communist Party events. Instead, they are busy scraping together a living in one of Asia's fastest-growing countries, where food, electricity and fuel prices have exploded amid double-digit inflation. Vietnam's rice prices are the region's highest, increasing nearly 40 percent between June 2010 and February, according to the Asian Development Bank.

But unlike elections held in

democratic countries, Vietnamese candidates do not campaign around promises of improvement or call for the ouster of incumbents with poor track records.

"Vietnam's electoral process has been designed to prevent hot-button issues from being discussed by the candidates," said Carl Thayer, a Vietnam expert at the Australian Defense Force Academy in Canberra. "Voters are not presented a choice of candidates who differ on how issues such as inflation and rising prices should be addressed."

The National Assembly was

proper safety was ensured.

Wen and Lee also agreed to bolster efforts to help Japan with its overall recovery.

The leaders also discussed security, with the Korean peninsula as the main topic.

Though closely intertwined economically, Japan, China and South Korea have a number of issues that have kept them at odds over the years. China is North Korea's most important ally, though it is seen as a threat by both Seoul and Tokyo.

Territorial disputes also have soured relations between Japan and its neighbors.

Korea," he said.

Japan has been particularly concerned that excessive fears over the contamination of Japanese produce have led to unnecessary trade restrictions. China and South Korea had both expressed fears over Japanese imports, and criticized Japan for allowing the release of water with high radiation levels into the ocean.

In a statement after Sunday's meeting, the leaders agreed that safety measures should be based on informed policy and overreaction should be avoided. Wen suggested he was willing to consider easing restrictions if

Japanese produce.

On Saturday, the three leaders met in Fukushima to demonstrate their joint desire for Japan's recovery from the March 11 earthquake and tsunami. The disasters left more than 24,000 people dead or missing and sparked an ongoing crisis at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant.

Kan led a moment of silence for the victims, then thanked China and South Korea for their assistance.

"We are deeply grateful for the great help and assistance provided by China and South

the capital's main military hospital and killed at least six Afghan medical students. In Sunday's incident, one guard was killed as the attackers—three or four men armed with guns and wearing explosives strapped to their bodies—shot their way into the traffic department compound on the edge of Khost city at about 5 a.m., said Gen. Raz Mohammad Oryakhail, the army command-

er for Khost province.

Philippines: 2 fighter jets spotted near islands

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine military says two unidentified foreign fighter jets have been spotted flying near an area claimed by the country in the South China Sea, but that they made no hostile move. An armed

forces statement said Saturday that on May 11 two Philippine patrol planes were at 5,500 feet (1,700 meters) over the Kalaayan Island Group in the Spratlys when they saw the jets' condensation trails at at least 18,000 feet (5,500 meters) above them. The Spratly Islands are claimed in whole or in part by the Philippines, China, Malaysia, Taiwan, Brunei and Vietnam. The pilots were unable to identify the jets

viewed in the past as a rubber stamp that blindly passes the government's policies. In recent years, however, it has started to assert itself more by calling for the government to root out rampant corruption and waste along with openly criticizing some controversial projects.

Last year, in a landmark move, parliament put the brakes on a proposed \$56 billion north-south bullet train, saying it was too pricey for the country of 87 million, where the average monthly wage is about \$100.

National Assembly member Nguyen Minh Thuyet shocked many in another bold move last year by calling for an investigation to determine whether Cabinet members, including Prime

Minister Nguyen Tan Dung, were responsible for massive losses at the state-owned shipbuilding conglomerate Vinashin.

It was a scandal that left the company teetering on the edge of bankruptcy and drowning in debts equal to 4.5 percent of the country's gross domestic product. It resulted in a financial black eye when international ratings services issued credit downgrades.

Although Thuyet's calls for a probe were dismissed, he said it's important for the National Assembly's "democratic trend" to continue. He said the government must find a balance in its quest for high growth rates because current policies are resulting in skyrocketing inflation, which is crippling the working poor.

16 killed in landslides at Malaysian orphanage

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Two landslides that hit a Malaysian orphanage killed 15 boys and one adult but nine other people survived, police said Sunday.

District police chief Abdul Rashid Wahab said the bodies of 15 boys, aged 8 to 18, and a 34-year-old caretaker had been recovered. Six boys and three wardens who were critically injured in Saturday's landslides have been hospitalized, he said.

Medical officers had to amputate the leg of one of the boys at the site after he was pulled out due to a severe injury that caused incessant bleeding, health ministry official Azmi Shapie said.

Abdul Rashid said the last rescued victim, a 9-year-old boy, was pulled out nearly eight hours after tons of earth crashed through the orphanage for ethnic Malay Muslim boys in a sleepy village in central Selangor state.

Though it wasn't raining when the landslides occurred Saturday afternoon, wet weather in the past few days was the likely cause, he said.

The 25 people buried by the landslides were among 49 who

were attending a motivational camp at the orphanage, he said. Most of the boys were orphans, but details were still unclear.

"They just had lunch at the tent by the side of the house when two landslides apparently occurred seconds after each other," Abdul Rashid told The Associated Press. "The tent collapsed, burying 25 people as they did not have time to escape."

Mohamad Hambali Ismail, a warden at the orphanage, told local media that the children were preparing to receive visitors when the earth shook.

"I heard a loud noise. Suddenly the earth was chasing me. I had to run to save myself," Hambali, 34, told the Malay-language Berita Harian newspaper.

A heavy downpour after the landslides hampered rescue operations by some 200 firefighters, police and others.

"Rescuers have to dig through 14 feet (4 meters) of sludge using their hands and other equipment because the soil surrounding is very soft due to the rain," Abdul Rashid said, adding that the last body was retrieved more than 14 hours after the landslides.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Afghan officials: Militants storm gov't building

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Gunmen wearing suicide vests stormed a government building in eastern Afghanistan early Sunday and engaged in a shootout with Afghan security forces who surrounded the compound, officials said. The attack came a day after a Taliban suicide bomber infiltrated

and their markings since they were at such a high altitude.

6.1 earthquake strikes near South Pacific islands

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—The U.S. Geological Survey says a magnitude 6.1 earthquake has struck near a group of South Pacific islands. There are no reports of damage or risk of tsunami. A

statement by the USGS says the quake struck Sunday 12 miles (19 kilometers) under the Kermadec Islands, a New Zealand group with no permanent population that lies 620 miles (1,000 kilometers) east of the city of Auckland. New Zealand has been shaken by a series of quakes and aftershocks since the city of Christchurch was devastated by a temblor on Feb. 22 that killed 181 people.

World

Scientists: Iceland's Grimsvotn volcano erupting

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP)—Iceland's most active volcano has started erupting, scientists said Saturday—just over a year after another eruption on the North Atlantic island shut down European air traffic for days.

Iceland's Meteorological Office confirmed that an eruption had begun at the Grimsvotn volcano, accompanied by a series of small earthquakes. Smoke could be seen rising from the volcano, which lies under the uninhabited Vatnajökull glacier in southeast Iceland.

A no fly zone has been designated for 120 nautical miles (220 kilometers) in all directions from the eruption. Isavia, the company that operates and develops all airport facilities and air navigation services in Iceland, described this as standard procedure around eruptions.

"The plume of smoke has reached jet flying altitude and

plans have been made for planes flying through Icelandic air control space to fly southwardly tonight," said Hjordis Gudmundsdottir, the spokeswoman for Isavia.

Grimsvotn last erupted in 2004. Scientists have been expecting a new eruption and have said previously that this volcano's eruption will likely be small and should not lead to the air travel chaos caused in April 2010 by ash from the Eyjafjallajökull volcano.

History shows that previous eruptions in Grimsvotn have not had much influence on flight traffic—unlike the massive disruption caused last year.

Pall Einarsson, geophysicist at the University of Iceland, said last year's eruption was a rare event.

"The ash in Eyjafjallajökull was persistent or unrelenting and fine-grained," Einarsson said. "The ash in Grimsvotn is



Smoke rises from the Grimsvotn volcano, Saturday, May 21, 2011 in Reykjavik, Iceland.

more coarse and not as likely to cause danger as it falls to the ground faster and doesn't stay

as long in the air as in the Eyjafjallajökull eruption."

A plane from the Icelandic Coast Guard carrying experts from the University of Iceland will fly over the volcano and

evaluate the situation.

One eyewitness, Bolli Valgardsson, said the plume rose quickly several thousand feet (meters) into the air.

Sparsely populated Iceland is

one of the world's most volcanically active countries and eruptions are frequent.

Eruptions often cause local flooding from melting glacier ice, but rarely cause deaths.

Last year's Eyjafjallajökull eruption left some 10 million air travelers stranded worldwide after winds pushed the ash cloud toward some of the world's busiest airspace and led most northern European countries to ground all planes for five days.

Whether widespread disruption occurs again will depend on how long the eruption lasts, how high the ash plume rises and which way the wind blows.

In November, melted glacial ice began pouring from Grimsvotn, signaling a possible eruption. That was a false alarm but scientists have been monitoring the volcano closely ever since.

The volcano also erupted in 1998, 1996 and 1993. The eruptions have lasted between a day and several weeks.

UN: Tanks of northern Sudan in contested Abyei

JUBA, Sudan (AP)—Northern Sudanese troops appeared to have seized the contested town of Abyei on Saturday night, a U.N. spokeswoman said, increasing fears of conflict as the country's south prepares to become the world's newest country.

U.N. officials have seen 15 tanks belonging to the northern army in parts of the town, where earlier mortars slammed against a United Nations base, Hua Jiang said. One of those mortar rounds exploded, but there were no casualties among U.N. personnel, she said.

The attack on the compound has prevented the U.N. forces from patrolling this contested town, Jiang said.

The violence comes against the backdrop of a four-day visit by the U.N. Security Council to

Sudan, starting Saturday. Southern Sudan will become independent on July 9 and the U.N. has expressed concerns about recent violence in Southern Sudan and in several spots across the contested border region.

Southern Sudanese army spokesman Col. Philip Aguer said Saturday that the northern army was bombing the area near Abyei from the air for a second day.

The United Nations peacekeeping mission in Sudan issued a statement earlier Saturday calling for the immediate cessation of hostilities in Abyei and urging the north and south to protect civilians in the areas where fighting may be ongoing.

Southern Sudan's independence—approved overwhelmingly in a January vote—is less

than two months away, but the status of Abyei has not been determined. Its future is the most important outstanding issue remaining to be settled between north and south.

"There are still air bombardments," Aguer told The Associated Press on Saturday, referring to the southern army's allegations that the northern army began bombing Abyei on Friday after clashes there Thursday evening between northern and southern troops.

He also said the northern Sudanese Armed Forces attacked four villages in the Abyei area, but said he had no information on casualties. Aguer also said the southern army had received information that a northern army ground force was moving through the area.

Israel's leader denies crisis with US

WASHINGTON (AP)—Israel's leader, trying to defuse reports of a crisis with the U.S. over his rejection of President Barack Obama's proposed foundation for a future Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, said Saturday that media accounts of the disagreement have been "blown way out of proportion."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had bluntly criticized Obama's call earlier this week to base future negotiations on Palestinian statehood on Israel's boundaries before it captured the West Bank, east Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip in the 1967 Mideast war. He publicly reiterated that opposition while sitting beside Obama in the Oval Office on Friday.

On Saturday, Netanyahu stood firm by his insistence that Israel could not withdraw to its prewar lines, negotiate with a Palestinian government including violently anti-Israel Hamas militants or repatriate allow millions of Palestinians to homes in Israel that they or their families fled or were driven from during the fighting over Israel's 1948 creation.

But he told The Associated Press that media accounts of the disagreements "have been blown way out of proportion."

"It's true we have some differences of opinion, but these are among friends," Netanyahu said.

"There should be no doubt about the strength of the American-Israeli relationship and President Obama's commitment to Israel and its security," he added.

In a Mideast policy speech on Thursday, Obama gave unprecedented prominence to Washington's long-held stand on the future borders of Israel and a Palestinian state in the West Bank, Gaza and east Jerusalem. Although his comments did not

ble." From the very first days of his presidency, Obama has been pushing hard to wring an elusive peace agreement from Israel and the Palestinians, who stopped negotiating in late 2008, save a brief period this past September.

The Palestinians have not yet indicated whether his public statement on their hoped-for state's borders would be enough to bring them back to the negotiating table and drop their campaign to have the U.N. recognize their state unilaterally in September, a move both the U.S. and Israel oppose.

The Palestinians have refused to talk to Israel as long as it continues to build homes for Jews in east Jerusalem and the West Bank. Israel has refused to reinstate and expand a 10-month settlement construction slowdown that expired in late September.

In the meantime, the two sides are mired in mutual distrust and divided by more than just the border dispute. Should they ever return to the negotiating table, even bigger

problems loom with regard to resolving disputes over the status of contested Jerusalem, and a solution for the refugees.

Netanyahu has said he would not share Jerusalem with the Palestinians, who want the eastern sector of the holy city for the capital of a future state. No Israeli government has been willing to consider anything but a token repatriation of Palestinian refugees, for fear a mass return would dilute the Jewish character of the state.



© 2011 MCT
Source: ESRI

WORLD BRIEFS

Peru's Fujimori criticizes Chavez as 'dictatorial'

LIMA, Peru (AP)—Peruvian presidential candidate Keiko Fujimori criticized Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Saturday, saying he displays dictatorial attitudes. Fujimori will compete in a June 5 runoff against leftist former military officer Ollanta Humala, whom critics in Peru liken to Chavez. Fujimori made the remark about Chavez during a news conference when asked if she would cut relations with Venezuela if elected. "I believe Mr. Hugo Chavez has dictatorial attitudes. However, if I am president of Peru, I'm going to work for the integration of Latin America," she said.

Inmates free 15 hostage at Venezuela prison

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Inmates at a Caracas prison freed the warden and 14 other officers Saturday night after holding them hostage for more than a day. The prisoners agreed to release their captives after authorities pledged to investigate their complaints that several inmates

had been abused, said Nestor Reverol, a deputy justice minister. "They're with us. They're in good health," Reverol said of the 15 hostages. The uprising at La Planta prison began at 5 p.m. Friday when inmates clashed with National Guard troops, whom prisoners accused of mistreating a group of inmates as they were being taken to court.

Victims dismiss Vatican bid to curb abuse as empty

ROME (AP)—People who were sexually abused by priests gathered in Rome on Saturday to denounce the Vatican's latest effort to show it is cracking down on clerical abuse and demand greater accountability from the Catholic Church. About 50 victims, most of them Italian, gathered for a daylong symposium on the psychological and legal issues surrounding abuse. The group, which included several former students of a notorious school for the deaf in Verona where dozens of people reported abuse, ended the day with a march on Italy's parliament.

Health & Fitness

In Texas schools, a picture's worth 1,000 calories

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Smile, school-children. You're on calorie camera.

Health officials trying to reduce obesity and improve eating habits at five San Antonio elementary schools unveiled a \$2 million research project Wednesday that will photograph students' lunch trays before they sit down to eat and later take a snapshot of the leftovers.

A computer program then analyzes the photos to identify every piece of food on the plate—right down to how many ounces are left in that lump of mash potatoes—and calculates the number of calories each student scarfed down.

The project, funded by a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant, is the first

of its kind in the nation. The cameras, about the size of pocket flashlights, point only toward the trays and don't photograph the students. Researchers say about 90 percent of parents gave permission to record every morsel of food their child eats.

"We're trying to be as passive as possible. The kids know they're being monitored," said Dr. Roger Echon, who works for the San Antonio-based Social & Health Research Center, and who is building the food-recognition program.

Here's how it works: Each lunch tray gets a bar code sticker to identify a student. After the children load up their plates down the line—cole slaw or

green beans? french fries or fruit?—a camera above the cashier takes a picture of each tray.

When lunch is over and the plates are returned to the kitchen, another camera takes a snapshot of what's left. Echon's program then analyzes the before and after photos to calculate calories consumed and the values of 128 other nutrients. It identifies foods by measuring size, shape, color and density.

Parents will receive the data for their children, and researchers hope eating habits at home will change once moms and dads see what their kids are choosing in school. The data also will be used to study what foods children are likely to

choose and how much they're eating.

Nine-year-old Aaliyah Haley went through the lunch line at W.W. White Elementary with cheesy enchiladas, Spanish rice, fat-free chocolate milk and an apple. Two cameras, one pointed directly down and another about tray-level, photographed her food before she sat down to eat.

"I liked it. It's good food that was good for me," Haley said.

Just how healthy it was researchers don't know yet. Echon is still developing the program and expects to spend the first year of the four-year grant fine-tuning the equipment. By the 2012-13 school year, the Social Health & Research Center plans to have a prototype in place.

Echon has already made some changes to the project. Echon learned that mashed potatoes served on some campuses are lumpier than those served on others. The program now accounts for consistencies and texture.

The database already includes about 7,500 different varieties of food. Echon said he started from scratch because there was no other food-recognition software to build upon. He insisted on creating technology to record meals because ask-

ing 8-year-olds to remember what they ate and write it down is seldom accurate.

Researchers selected poor, minority campuses where obesity rates and diabetes risk are higher. Among those is White Elementary, which is just off a busy interstate highway on the city's poor east side, on a street dotted with fast-food restaurants and taquerias.

In Bexar County, where the five pilot schools are located, 33 percent of children living in poverty are obese.

Researchers warn that obesity is not always the result of children eating too many calories. A previous study by the nonprofit center reported that 44 percent of children studied consumed calories below daily minimum requirements, but nearly one-third were still obese. Seven percent screened positive for type 2 diabetes.

Mark Davis, the school's principal, said getting consent from parents hasn't been a problem. He suspects the small number of parents who withhold consent don't understand the project, perhaps thinking it limits what their child can eat at school. "Nothing in the program says they can't have something," Davis said. "It just says we're tracking what it is."

FDA panel backs infant doses for kids' Tylenol

SILVER SPRING, Md. (AP)—Federal health experts said Wednesday that dosing instructions for children younger than 2 years old should be added to Children's Tylenol and similar products containing acetaminophen, the popular pain reliever and fever reducer.

A panel of Food and Drug Administration advisers voted 21-0 in favor of adding doses for children 6 months to 2 years old to over-the-counter acetaminophen formulas. The FDA convened a two-day meeting to consider changes that will make the formulas safer and easier to use.

The liquid formulas have never contained dosing information for children under 2 to avoid an overdose and to encourage parents to seek medical attention for sick infants. Fever in children younger than 6 months can be associated with dangerous infections like meningitis and pneumonia.

The FDA's panelists said the lack of information contributes to confusion and can lead parents to incorrectly dose children. Acetaminophen-related overdoses are most common among children younger than 2, and have increased over the past decade, according to FDA data.

Acetaminophen is among the mostly widely used drugs in the U.S., sold in hundreds of formulations and combinations with other ingredients. Wednesday's meeting dealt with a small group of single-ingredient products, including J&J's Children and Infants' Tylenol, Novartis' Triaminic, Prestige Brands' Little Fevers and various drugstore brands.

While safe when used as directed, acetaminophen has long been subject to warning labels because it can cause liver damage when overused. Dosing errors with children's acetaminophen products accounted for 2.8 percent, or 7,500, of the 270,165 emergencies reported to poison centers last year, according to the American Association of

Poison Control Centers.

Overdoses can be caused by parents not reading the label, misinterpreting the dosing instructions or using a spoon or other container instead of the cup included with the product.

Panelists supported the FDA and manufacturer's efforts to improve labeling for the products, but some pointed out that the proposed changes have been discussed at FDA meetings since the mid-1990s.

"It's 16 years later, and we still don't have a clear and effective label for this product," said Amy Celento, the panel's patient representative. "This is taking far too long—we can't go the way of offshore drilling and wait until a disaster before we make necessary changes."

FDA is not required to follow the recommendations of its advisory panels, though it often does. The FDA will use this week's discussion to write binding guidelines for drugmakers.

In a separate vote Wednesday, the panel voted unanimously that medicines should include dosing information based on children's weight, which is considered the most accurate dosing measure. Nearly all over-the-counter manufacturers already include a dosing table with both weight and age. But panelists said instructions must emphasize that weight is the preferred approach.

Other changes recommended by the panel include limiting cup measurements to milliliters. Many cups now contain both teaspoon and milliliter markings, which panelists said can cause confusion.

The Consumer Healthcare Products Association said in a statement following the panel that it supported the recommendations to "give parents and caregivers more accurate and detailed dosing information where it is needed—directly on the drug facts label."

Personal Trainer

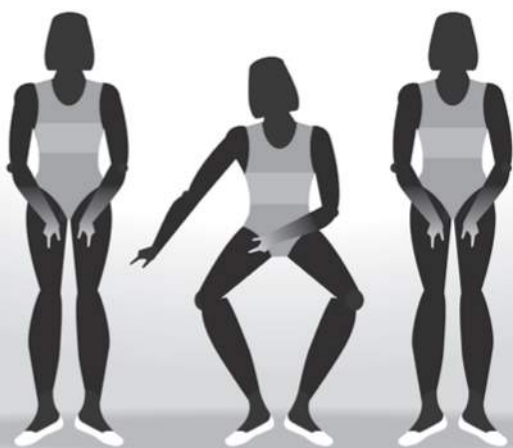
How dancers stretch

Ballet, modern and jazz dance are as physically demanding as any sport, and dancers work hard to maintain their strength and flexibility.

1 Warm up first

Do a series of **pliés** (PLEE-aze) by flexing knees slightly, then straightening them

Carefully maintain balance, posture



Lift, move arms smoothly

Stand with feet turned slightly outward

2 Barre exercises

Dancers lightly touch waist-level **barre** for balance, but any support can be used

Bend forward in gradual, smooth motion while reaching forward, then rise



Leg stretches with ankle on barre; lean forward until back of leg feels tension

Bend backward gently, with arm overhead; hold in stomach; bend shoulders, upper back, then lower back

3 Floor exercises

Sitting stretches develop upper body flexibility; be careful not to force muscles

Prone leg lifts develop buttocks, backs of thighs and lower back muscles

Source: "DK Superguides Ballet"

Graphic: Paul Trap



© 2011 MCT

Life & Style

World Resort mixologist tops bartending challenge

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

His intoxicating concoction dubbed "Marianas Punch" earned Marlon Pineda the championship in this year's "Burnett's Flavored Vodka Challenge," a bartender cocktail competition held at the Taste of the Marianas event Saturday night.

A food and beverage staff at Saipan World Resort, Pineda also won the Best in Showmanship award for the 10th year of the bartending competition sponsored by Marianas Visitors Authority, Marpac, Burnett's Flavored Vodka, IT&E, DFS Galleria, Coca Cola, Systems 4 U, WVC Inc., and Armatech.

Pineda bested nine other candidates from different hotels and bars for his alcohol creation made up of Burnett's coconut-flavored vodka, strawberry puree, triple sec, Coco Lopez, and pineapple juice.

The participants, who were each given a five-minute time limit, were judged based on originality, taste, showmanship, neatness, and audience impact.

This year's judges were Aqua Resort Club restaurant manager Ramon Awit, former Palms Resort & Spa F&B manager Cristina Ilustre, Armatech operations manager and United Filipino Organization president Bong Malasarte, and CUC's Jesse Randles.

Pineda received a medal, a trophy, DFS gift, a cell phone from IT&E, and \$75 cash as the challenge winner. He also took home another DFS gift and \$25 for bagging the Best in Showmanship award.

Pineda, who placed third in the same contest back in 2009 and 2010, said in an interview that he didn't expect to be this year's victor.

"It took our whole team one month to create the perfect recipe for our drink. I owe a lot to all my coaches and advisers who gave their full support," he told reporters after the event.

These coaches and advisers, Pineda said, include Saipan World Resort operations manager Matthew Park, Ruel Caruana, Alvin Palma, Steve Chea, F&B manager Ronald Sanchez, and Joe Lito Bayking who helped make the garnish for his cocktail presentation.

"My victory is also my gift to my son, Marlon Jr., who graduated first honor at Golden Harvest. This is for him," added Pineda.

Other winners were Roland Fernandez of Laolao Bay Golf Resort, first runner-up and Best in Taste; Ma. Theresa Rio of Pacific Islands Club, second runner-up; Mike Benavente of GIG, third runner-up; and Helen Borja of Hyatt Regency, Best in Props & Costume.



CLARISSA V. DAVID
Marlon Pineda of Saipan World Resort, wearing a medal and cap, is flanked by members of the Northern Marianas Bartenders Association and competition judges after winning this year's Bartender Cocktail Competition/Burnett's Flavored Vodka Challenge held Saturday night during the Taste of the Marianas.

For his part, Bartenders Association president and competition director Lito Espino said they were pleased that a lot of

community members showed up for the event despite the sporadic rain that night.

"We especially thank the

sponsors and the support of all hotel managers. This event would not have been possible without them," he added.

First Year Death Anniversary

In loving memory of

†**Maria Reyes Demapan**

Wife of: **Ramon DLG. Demapan**

We, the family humbly invite all of our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the passing of our dearly beloved mother/grandmother unto eternal life.

Nightly Mass will be offered every evening beginning on Thursday, May 19th thru May 27th 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the San Vicente Church.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Un Dangkulu na Si Yu'us ma'ase
Ginen I Familia

In Loving Memory

Raymond "Bo" Frank Alvarez

Familian Alabadu
October 16, 1945 - May 14, 2011

Formerly of Sinajana, residing in Saipan was called home to our heavenly Father at the age of 65.

Entering into eternal life promised by Jesus, he now joins his Father: Arsenio Alvarez, Mother: Francisca Taimanglo Navarro Alvarez, and Mother-in-Law: Isabel Cabrera Taitano, and Father-in-Law: Jose C. Mesa

His love and memories will continue to live on in the hearts of his

Wife: Linda Mesa Alvarez; His Children/Spouses/Grandchildren/Great Grand Child: Ray Jr. "Boss" & Sisi N. Alvarez-(Ray III, Nicholas, Deven, Samuel, Ryder, Vanna), Justis "Cuki" Alvarez & Mariana S. Palacios-(Alverick, Shane, Shaniah, Aldene Jayh (Great Grand), Tioni Mesa Tomokane Alvarez, Josenio Ray Mesa Alvarez.

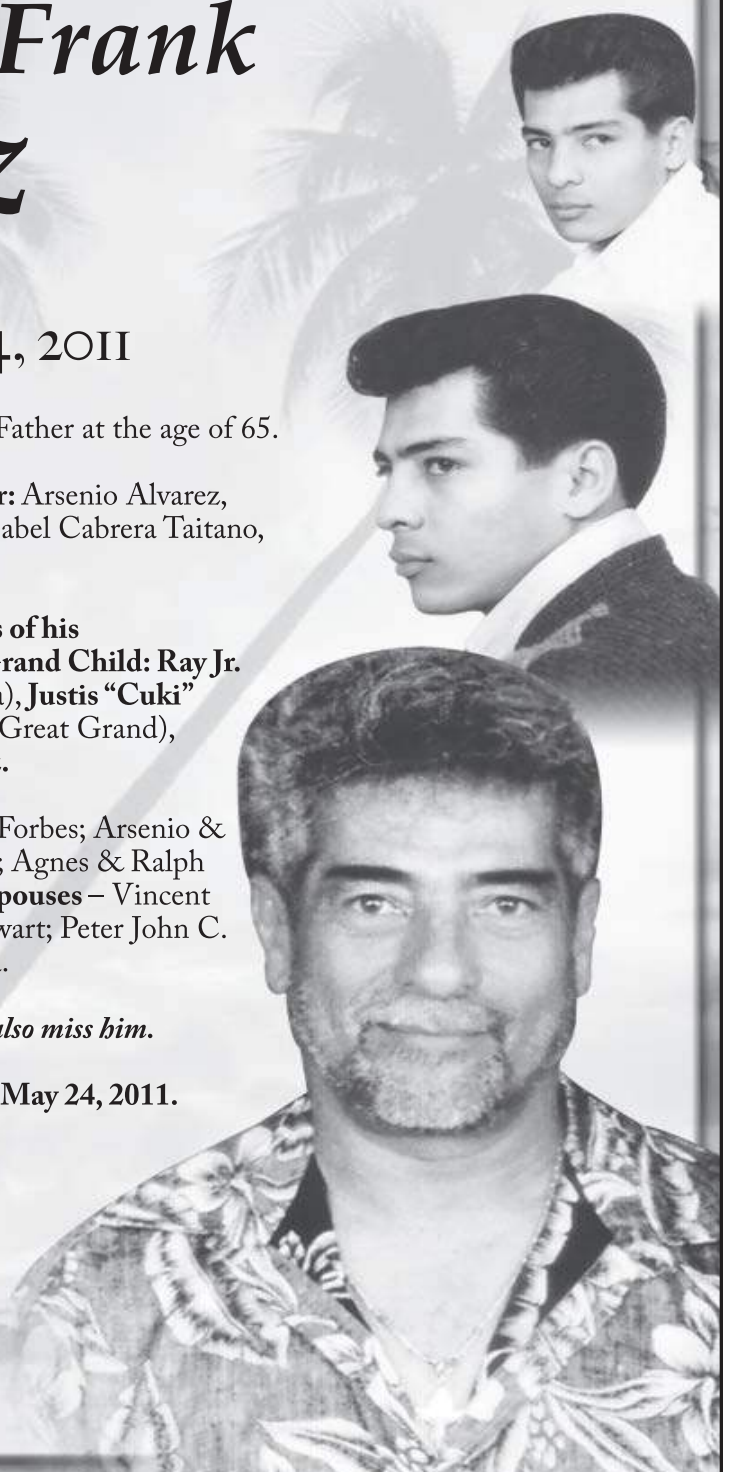
Siblings and Spouses - Enrico and Hope Alvarez Cristobal; Angella Alvarez Forbes; Arsenio & Alice Alvarez; Pedro & Annie Alvarez (dec.); Manuel & Bernadette Alvarez; Agnes & Ralph Hurtado, Fremont, CA; Michael and Fay Alvarez; (In-Laws) Siblings and Spouses - Vincent C. & Doris Mesa; Jesse C. & Selina Mesa; Melinda C. Mesa & Darrel V. Stewart; Peter John C. & Tanya F. Mesa; A.J. Taitano & Danielle Enochs, Arizona.

Numerous Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Nieces, Nephews, and Friends will also miss him.

**Nightly Rosary is being held at San Jose Church at 7:00p.m. until Tuesday, May 24, 2011.
Daily Mass is being held at Kristo Rai Church.**

Holy Rosary will be begin at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 25, 2011, at Nuestra Senora Dela Paz Memorial Chapel and the remains of Raymond F. Alvarez will be escorted at 7:30 to Kristo Rai Church in Garapan. Responso service will be at 8am.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10am followed by Interment Services at the CNMI Veteran's Cemetery in Marpi, Saipan.



Wrestler known as 'Macho Man' dies in Fla. wreck

By HARRY R. WEBER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Randy "Macho Man" Savage, a larger-than-life personality from professional wrestling's 1980s flying-elbow heyday known for his raspy voice, brash style and the young woman named Miss Elizabeth who often accompanied him, died in a car crash Friday in Florida. He was 58.

A Florida Highway Patrol crash report said the former wrestler—whose legal name was Randy Mario Poffo—was driving a Jeep Wrangler when he lost control in Pinellas County around 9:25 a.m. The Jeep veered over the raised concrete median divider, crossed over the eastbound lanes and crashed head-on into a tree.

Police said he may have suffered a "medical event" before the accident, but the report did not elaborate, and it said officials would need to perform an autopsy to know for sure.

The report said a woman in the vehicle, identified as Barbara L. Poffo, 56, suffered minor injuries. A statement from Stamford, Conn.-based World Wrestling Entertainment said the passenger was the wrestler's current wife. Both were wearing their seatbelts, according to the police report.

"Poffo will be greatly missed by WWE and his fans," the statement said.

Savage was a charismatic wrestler made famous for his "Macho Man" nickname and his "Oooh Yeah!" catchphrase. He was a champion in Vince McMahon's World Wrestling Federation, and later Ted Turner's now-defunct World Championship Wrestling.

Poffo was under contract with WWE from 1985 to 1993 and held both the WWE and Intercontinental Championships.

"Our sincerest condolences go out to his family and friends. We wish a speedy recovery to his wife," WWE said.

Savage defined the mega-watt personalities of the 1980s World Wrestling Federation (now WWE). He wore sequined robes bejeweled with "Macho Man" on the back, rainbow-colored cowboy hats and colorful bandanas and oversized sunglasses, part of a unique look that helped build the WWF into a mainstream phenomenon.

For most of his career, his valet, Miss Elizabeth, was by his side. The woman, Elizabeth Hulette, was his real-life wife at the time. They later divorced, and Hulette died in 2003 at 42 in what was later ruled a prescription drug overdose.

Savage's death was not the first to catch the wrestling world by surprise.

Chris Benoit killed his wife and son and then committed suicide in their Georgia home in 2007; Benoit was 40.

Eddie Guerrero was 38 when he died of a heart attack in 2005 after a history of alcohol and drug problems.

Curt "Mr. Perfect" Hennig died of a cocaine overdose in 2003 at 44. That same year, Michael "Road Warrior Hawk" Hegstrand died from a heart attack at 46. He had battled alcohol and drugs, as well as steroids.

In 1999, wrestler Owen Hart, 33, was killed when he fell from an apparatus as he was being lowered into the ring from the ceiling of Kemper Arena in Kansas City, Mo.

The WWF made Savage their champion after a win over Ted DiBiase in the main event at WrestleMania in 1988.



In this undated publicity image released by WWE, professional wrestler Randy "Macho Man" Savage is shown.

Savage had not appeared for a major wrestling organization since 2004, when he performed for Total Nonstop Action.

He was at times both the most popular and most hated wrestler in entertainment. His flying elbow off the top rope was mimicked by basement and

backyard wrestlers everywhere. Savage made good use of his deep, raspy voice as a corporate pitchman as well, for years ordering Slim Jim fans to "Snap into a Slim Jim!"

He's most known for his legendary rivalries with Hulk Hogan, Ricky

Steamboat and Ric Flair. Wrestlers took to Twitter to let fans know Savage won't be forgotten.

"There's probably five or six of us, with Andre (the Giant) and Hogan and thankfully myself and Flair, that, when their names pop up, even if you're not a fan, you know who in the hell these people are," said former wrestler and WWE Hall of Famer Dusty Rhodes. "You say, 'I know this guy. I know Macho Man Randy Savage.' He was part of that breed. We lost a good one."

Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson hailed Savage as one of his childhood inspirations and heroes, while Mick "Cactus Jack" Foley called Savage "one of my favorite performers."

Hogan said he and Savage had just started talking again after 10 years.

"He had so much life in his eyes & in his spirit, I just pray that he's happy and in a better place and we miss him," Hogan wrote.

While so many personalities who left the WWF for WCW like Hogan, Roddy Piper and Mean Gene Okerlund were welcomed back to the company and even inducted into the Hall of Fame, Savage never returned.

Rhodes said Savage had prudently saved his money and was content to remain out of the spotlight.

"He was a recluse, almost," Rhodes said by phone. "Whatever he was doing, he wanted that privacy. Yeah, he was out of the picture for 10 years, but he didn't want to be in the picture."

Savage was a minor league catcher in the 1970s for St. Louis and Cincinnati before turning in the uniform for tights. His father, Angelo Poffo, was a long-time wrestler, and his brother, "Leaping" Lanny Poffo, was also a 1980s WWF mainstay. Condolences from fans poured in to Lanny Poffo's Facebook page on Friday. Funeral arrangements were not immediately available.

Cannes contenders: Malick, Almodovar, silent film

CANNES, France (AP)—Robert De Niro, an actor of few words, and a film of hardly any words could prove a perfect match as the Cannes Film Festival prepares to hand out its awards.

Among titles competing for the top prize Sunday at the world's most-prestigious film festival is French director Michel Hazanavicius' silent movie "The Artist," which charmed Cannes audiences with a story about early Hollywood likely to appeal to an actor and filmmaker such as De Niro, who heads the awards jury that also includes Uma Thurman and Jude Law.

Other possible winners of the festival's Palme d'Or include Spaniard Pedro Almodovar's horror thriller "The Skin I Live In," starring Antonio Banderas; American filmmaker Terrence Malick's expansive drama "The Tree of Life," with Brad Pitt; British director Lynne Ramsay's school-violence saga "We Need to Talk About Kevin," featuring Tilda Swinton; and Finnish director Aki Kaurismäki's heartwarming immigrant tale "Le Havre."

Hazanavicius, competing at

Cannes for the first time, said he has tried to ignore the awards talk swirling about his film, which stars his wife, Berenice Bejo, and Jean Dujardin in the comic melodrama of a silent-era star whose career crumbles in the sound era.

"Some people talk and it's very nice, but I try to stay cool," Hazanavicius said. "It would be an honor to have any prize, but it's an honor to be here. This festival is so prestigious, and this year all the directors are so talented, and the films are so good. It's a good year for the festival. Some years are not so good, but everybody says this year is the perfect year."

The strong lineup includes an unusual entry from Almodovar, the Academy Award-winning director of "Talk to Her" and "All About My Mother," who has won the directing and screenplay prizes at Cannes but never the top award.

"I love the festival, but for a veteran director like me, Cannes can be an enormous trap," Almodovar said. "It is really risky to come ... because there have been times in my career when it's a more interesting, punchy story if a film fails (to win the



In this photo taken Sunday, May 15, 2011, actors Jean Dujardin, left, and Berenice Bejo pose during a photo call for The Artist, at the 64th international film festival, in Cannes, southern France.

prize) than if it gets it. I'm a much more interesting story as a loser than if I win a prize, but anyway, I try not to think about these things."

The film is a reunion between Almodovar and Banderas, who rose to stardom in the director's 1980s movies. Almodovar's films often are a mix of sober drama and blissful comedy, but this one casts Banderas as a mad scientist intent on terrible

vengeance, and the tale features disturbing images of sexual assault and other violence.

Malick is another past directing winner at Cannes, for "Days of Heaven" in 1979. "The Tree of Life" is only the third film Malick has made since and marks his first trip back to Cannes, this time with a film setting the travails of a family against a cosmic backdrop, stretching from the creation of

the universe through the age of dinosaurs to modern times.

Notoriously press-shy, Malick stayed out of sight at Cannes, where his film starring Pitt, Sean Penn and Jessica Chastain had been eagerly awaited for more than a year. Festival organizers had hoped to premiere "The Tree of Life" last year, but the film was not ready in time.

Malick is uncomfortable with the public trappings that go along with filmmaking, said Pitt, who doubts the director would show up to accept any awards the film might receive.

"I don't want to presume, but I would think not. He's not made for it. It's not his interest," Pitt said. "One of the film's many messages is that it's the experience, it's not the outcome, and I think it would be antithetical to him."

Three of the 20 competing films come from past Palme d'Or recipients—the troubled-youth tale "The Kid with a Bike" from Belgian brothers Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne (two-time Cannes winners for "Rosetta" and "The Child"); the papal saga "Habemus Papam" from Italian filmmaker Nanni Moretti ("The Son's Room"); and the end-of-the-world drama "Melancholia" from Danish di-

rector Lars von Trier ("Dancer in the Dark").

Cannes organizers kicked von Trier out of the festival after a news conference in which the director said he sympathized with Adolf Hitler, made wisecracks about Jews and quipped that he was a Nazi. Von Trier later apologized and said he had been joking.

"Melancholia," which stars Kirsten Dunst, Charlotte Gainsbourg and Kiefer Sutherland, remains eligible for prizes, though von Trier is banned from the awards ceremony.

Swinton, an Oscar winner for "Michael Clayton," is considered a front-runner for Cannes' best-actress prize for "We Need to Talk About Kevin," in which she plays the guilt-ridden, grieving mother whose son carried out a school massacre.

A past member of film juries, Swinton said awards make for an aggravating end to the cinema celebration that is Cannes.

"Juries have this rather strange task of giving prizes, but that's never the most important thing," Swinton said. "In my experience you go to see a lot of films and have fantastic conversations with people, and then there's this noxious process where you have to choose."

Schwarzenegger must revamp image once more

LOS ANGELES (AP)—For 35 years, Arnold Schwarzenegger has been carefully crafting his public image, from Austrian bodybuilder and international action star to family man and Republican politician.

Now, with his split from Maria Shriver and revelations that he fathered a child with a member of his housekeeping staff, where does Schwarzenegger go from here? Can he have a future either in politics or film, and how does he once again reshape his image, especially in the eyes of female fans?

“His biggest problem as an action star has nothing to do with being an adulterer. It has to do with being 63 years old and physically wrecked—unless they’re going to make ‘Terminator 6: The Golden Years,’” said David Leibowitz, a Phoenix-based public relations and crisis communications consultant. “The love child is almost the least of his worries.”

For decades, though, Schwarzenegger was the safest of box-office bets, with his bulging, muscular physique and his quippy, punny one-liners. The “Terminator” movies alone have made more than \$1 billion worldwide—most of that outside the United States.

“For me, he has never been a serious action star, but rather a sort of parody of himself,” said Ali Arikian, chief film critic for the Turkish website Dipnot.tv and Roger Ebert contributor. “He had that wink in his eye even in earlier, more somber stuff like ‘Conan the Barbarian.’ In fact, when he tried to be more serious, as with 1999’s turgid ‘End of Days,’ it was risible: nothing more hilarious than seeing Arnie ‘act!’ So, he’s basically been this goofy clown, shrewd and with great intelligence about his career, but a clown nonetheless.”

Domestically, as Schwarzenegger’s movie glory days began waning, he revamped his image



In this April 4, 2011 file photo, actor and former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, poses after receiving the insignia of Chevalier in the Order of the Legion of Honor during the MIPTV (International Television Programme Market) in Cannes, southern France.

again and became the improbable governor of California in a 2003 recall election.

Having a Kennedy heiress by his side certainly didn’t hurt, despite the couple’s disparate political leanings and even through claims that Schwarzenegger had groped other women. As former San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown once put it, “Maria has been much more of a benefit to Arnold than Arnold has been to Maria.”

Schwarzenegger often said being governor was the best job in the world, one he would have

enjoyed holding longer had there not been term limits.

While in office, his highly choreographed, stage-managed appearances often seemed more like Hollywood productions than political forums. With Gov. Schwarzenegger, opportunities for image enhancement were seldom missed.

But his standing with voters was rocky throughout his governorship as the political neophyte sought to figure out where he stood on a host of divisive issues. Schwarzenegger’s approval ratings plummeted during the

2005 special election in which he placed several conservative measures on the ballot, all of which voters resoundingly rejected. With Shriver’s help, he apologized and reinvented himself once more as a political moderate, winning easy re-election in 2006.

During his second term, Schwarzenegger made bi-partisan friendships in the state Legislature and after signing legislation to restrict California’s greenhouse gas emissions, he became a leader in the green energy cause.

But he was elected on a promise to fix California’s chronic budget woes, and despite his best efforts, he soon gave in to the gimmickry and maneuvering that have been hallmarks of budget deal-making in Sacramento. He was seen as largely failing to accomplish his mandate, and his approval rating fell to 25 percent as he left office in 2010.

Lately, he’s been jet-setting with the likes of “Terminator” director James Cameron and announcing he’s ready to re-launch his acting career. But following his separation from Shriver after 25 years of marriage and the damaging baby revelations, he says he’s putting those plans on hold.

As the owner of the Carolina Cinemas chain of movie theaters, Bill Banowsky sees Schwarzenegger making a comeback eventually—but only as an action star.

“I’d feel great about it if he’s playing a ‘Terminator’ role, if he’s playing a role in a big action movie. I think he’s going to do very well,” said Banowsky, who also founded the independent distributor Magnolia Pictures. “If he comes out with a romantic comedy as a way to get back in, that would be really challenging for him.”

And Arikian of the Turkish website suspects Schwarzenegger still has a future as a global star, despite his age.

after announcing on television that she was HIV positive.

Earlier, she told reporters that every little bit helps when it comes to fighting AIDS.

“We can’t continue to let this happen,” said Jackson, who is a representative of amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research.

Brooke Shields, meanwhile, presented a euro100,000 Crystal of Hope award to Anya Sarang, CEO of the Andrey Rylkov Foundation for Health and Social Justice that runs projects in Russia, where those who are HIV positive are often stigmatized.

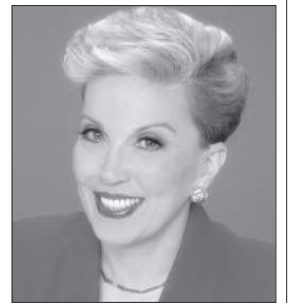
“She is definitely an angel,” Shields said of Sarang.

In a video address, former United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan called for continued action to ensure progress.

“We need to constantly renew our commitment and measure our success not in terms of resolutions past but in the lives of future generations saved,” he said. “We all have a role to play.”

Despairing daughter needs help to cope with mom’s drinking

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I’m desperate for guidance. I have no mentors to consult nor anyone with more life experience because I have no family left I can talk to anymore.

Five years ago, when I was 22, my father committed suicide. My mother and I were witnesses. His family blamed me for not trying to wrestle a loaded gun from him. (I know I did the right thing.) Dad’s family cut Mother and me off completely.

Mom always had a problem with drinking, but it became worse after Dad killed himself. The last five years have been spent putting my life on hold to pick up the pieces. Mom loses jobs for being drunk, is all but black-listed in the city she lives in and is often short of rent money. If I give her money to pay her rent, she blows it on alcohol. She’ll sleep with strangers for money when she’s facing eviction.

It kills me knowing the mother who loved me is going to eventually end up on the street, but I can’t be her mother anymore. I didn’t have a childhood because I was always dealing with her alcoholism, and Dad’s, too. I can’t bear the thought of her homeless and hungry, but I know picking her up only enables her drinking. Please help me. I don’t know what to do.

DESPERATE FOR GUIDANCE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR DESPERATE: You are a caring and dutiful daughter, but the burden you have assumed will crush you if you don’t put it down. No one can save someone who doesn’t want to be saved or isn’t ready to be. Until your mother realizes she needs help for her addiction, she’ll continue on the path her drinking is leading her.

It is extremely important for your emotional well-being to let go of your guilt for being unable to “mother your mother.” An excellent place to begin would be to attend some Al-Anon meetings. There you will find support from friends and relatives of alcoholics who help each other through the same trials you are experiencing. The meetings are free and confidential. To find one in your area, call (888) 4AL-ANON ((888) 425-2666). Someone will always answer during business hours Eastern time. Or, visit the website at Al-AnonFamilyGroups.org.

DEAR ABBY: My sister is having a baby, and we’re wondering if there is an acceptable way to let people know that she wouldn’t mind getting used items as gifts—especially the “big” things. No one in our family is well off, but this is her first child and she does need stuff.

Would a note in the shower invitation be tacky? In this money-saving time, I think our idea is a good one. How do we convey the message?

LIKES “LIKE-NEW” IN OHIO

DEAR LIKES “LIKE-NEW”: I’m glad you asked, because a note in the shower invitation would be tacky. The way that message should be conveyed is verbally, when prospective guests ask what the mother-to-be needs.

However, before your sister uses a secondhand toy or nursery equipment, it would be a good idea to check the website run by the Consumer Product Safety Commission to make certain the item hasn’t been the subject of a safety recall. (More than 300 products of various types are recalled each year.) The website to visit is www.recalls.gov.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order “How to Be Popular.” Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Janet Jackson, Bill Clinton at Austrian AIDS bash

VIENNA (AP)—Janet Jackson, former U.S. President Bill Clinton and Brooke Shields joined thousands of revelers in risqué attire Saturday at the Life Ball, a flamboyant Austrian fundraiser for people with HIV and AIDS.

The trio was among a slew of celebrities who participated in a flashy opening ceremony outside Vienna’s city hall that included a fashion show and live acts by Natasha Bedingfield, Holly Johnson and Natalia Kills.

Clinton reminded partygoers — many covering private body parts with nothing more than paint, feathers or G-strings — that a large number of those infected with the virus still aren’t getting access to lifesaving treatment.

“We are here tonight because 10 million people in poor countries still need to be on the medicine and if you want to cut the infection rate, if you want to cut the death rate, we have to finish the job,” he said.

In 2002, Clinton established an initiative to facilitate access to an-



Guests in fancy costumes arrive for the opening ceremony of the 19th Life Ball in front of Vienna’s city hall, Austria, on Saturday, May 21, 2011.

tiretroviral treatment and improve national health care systems in developing countries.

Jackson recalled how in 1998, a South African AIDS activist was beaten to death by her neighbors

CLASSIFIED ADS



FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for used cars. Good condition. 2000 yr. & up. We pay cash! Pls. call 287-7676

CONDO FOR SALE

EASTWOOD CITY, QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES
Olympic Heights Tower I, Unit 27F
46 Sq. M., 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
Unfurnished, New Paint, Great Condition
For more information contact
Jim @ 285-7571
or e-mail: junglejimsaipan@gmail.com

FOR SALE

2003 Ford - 15 passengers Van
Asking price \$6,800.00 • Tel: 483-4098
Split Type air-con for sale
Used for 3 months only

WHATZIT Solution:
Split second



Income generating and well maintained Bar for sale.

Located in Garapan beach side Across Mobil McDonald's. 15k OBO.

For details please call 287-1089/ 235-1758

HOUSE FOR RENT

•3-Bedroom
•Sugar King Estates - Garapan
Available June 1, 2011

Coast-to-Coast Real Estate Apartments

•2-Bedroom •Furnished
•Centrally Located in Garapan
•\$400 Monthly •Utilities not included

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Tun Kiku's Building
2312 sq. ft.-1st floor
1156 sq.ft.-2nd floor
Rent Negotiable-

Call 285-2713



PUBLIC NOTICE

PIC's Waterslides will be closed for planned repair and maintenance from May 16-27, 2011. We apologize for the inconvenience during this time and thank you for your cooperation and patronage.

PIC Management

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Marianas Hands Corporation is seeking for Well-trained and faithful TUTORS!!!

Qualifications:

- High School Graduate at least. Preferably under College (NMC) or graduated.
- Excellent written and communication skills.
- Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning spelling of words, and rules of composition and grammar.
- Willing to work on time and caring students with passion
- Should have own transportation

***Salary is based on credentials and work experience*

Contact

Mr. Shin (670) 989-0576 or
Mr. Kim (670) 989-3301
E-mail marianashands@gmail.com

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

runn erup

WHATZIT? © 2011 www.whatzit.com
Used by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

Find today's solution in this section

HOUSE FOR RENT or SALE



Front View



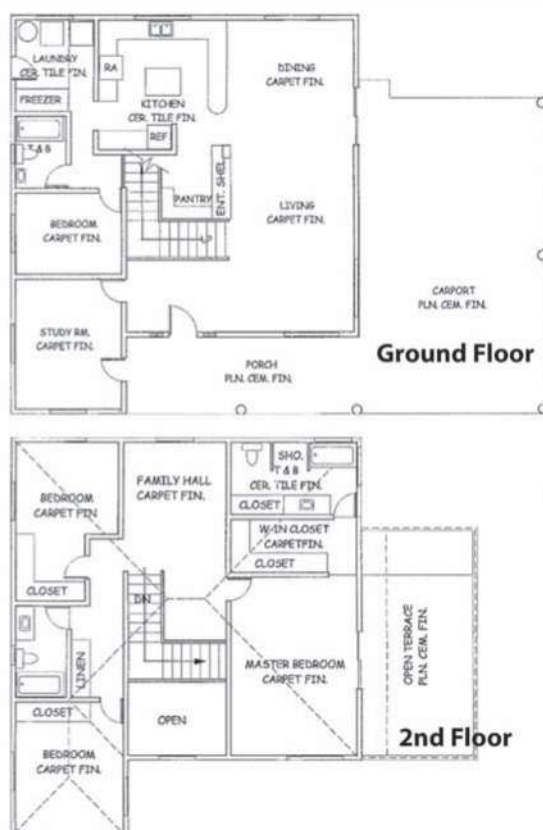
Back Yard View

Make this your home.

Quite neighborhood in As Perdido, five minutes drive from the airport.

2,900 sf five bedrooms/three bathrooms, 2nd floor lanai, separate living/family rooms, covered carport, water tank, situated on 1 acre property, fully fenced & gated, large spacious front & back yards (banana & mango trees).

For info, contact Mike at **(670) 234-1795** or Cell: **671-689-5836** Email: familyhome4rent@yahoo.com



Mavericks avoid collapse, beat Thunder



OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Even when he is off his game, Dirk Nowitzki can still get the job done as the Dallas Mavericks' closer.

Nowitzki shrugged off a rough start and made a few key jumpers in the fourth quarter, helping the Mavericks hold off the Oklahoma City Thunder for a 93-87 victory Saturday night and a 2-1 lead in the Western Conference finals.

The big German had missed 10 of his first 14 shots, but Dallas kept going to him with the Thunder trying to become the second team to rally from a 23-point deficit to beat the Mavericks in these playoffs.

"He's our guy. In the fourth quarters, he's going to touch the ball as frequently as we can get it to him," coach Rick Carlisle said. "If he misses a few shots, he's not going to get deterred, he's not going to get discouraged. He's got the kind of will, he's going to keep going at it."

The Mavericks didn't care that Nowitzki couldn't seem to make a shot most of the game. They still gave him the ball on 10 of 11 possessions at one point, and he scored three times - enough to keep Oklahoma City at bay.

Nowitzki finished with 18 points on 7 for 21 shooting.

"We didn't really have a lot going in the second half offensively, so I've got to keep attacking for this team like I have for the last 13 years," Nowitzki said. "This team needs me to score and to keep being aggressive."

NBA scoring champion Kevin Durant also struggled from the field, hitting just 7 of 22 shots to finish with 24 points and 12 rebounds. Russell Westbrook responded to a fourth-quarter benching with 30 points, helping the Thunder make it interesting in the final minutes.

Dallas had already blown a 23-point lead in the final 13 minutes in the first round at Portland, and led by 22 with 17 minutes to go this time.

Westbrook and Daequan Cook each missed 3-pointers that could've gotten the Thunder within three, and Westbrook then lost the ball out of bounds before Jason Terry's jumper stretched the advantage to 86-78 with 1:42 remaining.

Nowitzki added a jumper from the left elbow to put the lead back at eight after Durant hit two free throws, and Dallas held on from there.

"We fought through a lot in the second half there, we stuck together and we grinded it out," Nowitzki said.

Shawn Marion also scored 18, and Kidd and Terry each chipped in 13. Tyson Chandler had 15 rebounds, including six on the offensive end.

The Mavericks, who tied with Miami for the league's best road record during the regular season, won for the fourth straight time outside Dallas in these playoffs and reclaimed home-court advantage just two nights after letting it get away in Game 2.

"In a game like this in someone else's arena, coming off a loss, you have to come out with anger and an intensity," Terry said. "We did that."

The Thunder leaned on their bench again in the fourth quarter, but this time Westbrook was on the court instead of the bench like he was in Game 2. Reserves Nick Collison, James Harden and Cook joined the All-Star tandem of Durant and Westbrook on the floor, but the bench didn't come up nearly as big in this one—scoring just 16 points



Dallas Mavericks forward Shawn Marion prepares to dunk as Oklahoma City Thunder's James Harden (13) looks on during Game 3 of the NBA Western Conference finals basketball series Saturday, May 21, 2011, in Oklahoma City.

after besting the Dallas reserves 50-29 in Game 2.

The Thunder missed their first 16 3-pointers—including all eight by Durant—before Westbrook made one in the final minute to get Oklahoma City within 88-83. Dallas made five of

its six free throws to close it out, and Terry swiped the ball with 10 seconds left and ran out the clock on the win.

Oklahoma City fell behind by as many as 23 after a dreadful start, and it didn't get much better for a while. The Thunder had made only 10 of their

41 shots when Dallas bumped its lead back up to 58-36 by scoring the first six points after halftime.

"Frustrating," said Durant, his head in his hand. "It's tough to start a game, not make shots and you give teams easy baskets. That's like a

Breaking loose: Shackleford wins Preakness

BALTIMORE (AP)—Soaked with sweat, Shackleford bucked and kicked until crewmen finally shoved him into the No. 5 gate at the Preakness.

One ton of horseflesh all but screamed, "Get me out of here."

Less than two minutes after the gate sprang open, the nervous colt was a cool classic winner.

Shackleford held off a late charge by the 2-1 favorite Animal Kingdom, spoiling yet another Triple Crown try and beating the Kentucky Derby winner by a half-length Saturday at Pimlico.

The chestnut colt, who led into the stretch in the Derby two weeks ago, finished the job at 12-1 odds, covering the 1 3-16 miles in 1:56.47.

With jockey Jesus Castanon aboard, Shackleford battled Flashpoint for the lead through a quick opening quarter-mile of 22.69 seconds, just a fifth of a second off the Preakness record.

They continued their duel until midway on the final turn, when Shackleford dug in to hold off the onrushing Animal Kingdom before 107,398 fans.

"He was a little hot in the beginning, but he was able to calm down," Castanon said. "He's a good horse and able to handle it."

It was the first victory in a Triple Crown race for Castanon and trainer Dale Romans, a Louisville, Ky., native, who watched Shackleford finish fourth in the Derby.

Shackleford's pre-race antics weren't unusual. He often gets nervous and sweats excessively, not normally a good thing on a day when temperatures hit the 80s in sunny Baltimore.

"He wasn't acting that bad. It's a hot day, so that wasn't worrying me too much. I was more concerned at the quarter-pole if he was going to hold on," said Romans, who had one Breeders' Cup victory and a win in the \$6 million Dubai World Cup to his credit in his long career.

"I've won some big races, but none as exciting as that one," he said, meaning the Preakness, where he finished second last year with First Dude.

"For as hard as he ran in the Derby and to come back, Dale did a fantastic job with him," said trainer Bob Baffert, a five-time Preakness winner. "I'm happy for Dale because the poor guy ran second last year with First Dude and it looked like he had it won. He did a great training job."

Shackleford paid \$27.20, \$10.20 and \$6.80.

Animal Kingdom returned \$4.20 and \$3.60. Astrology paid \$8 to show.

Dialed In was fourth after finishing eighth in the Derby as the beaten favorite.

"They went fast enough early, but then they slowed out," trainer Nick Zito said. "It didn't work out."

Dance City was fifth, followed by Mucho Macho Man, King Congie and Mr. Commons. Isn't He Perfect was ninth, then came Concealed Identity, Norman Asbjornson, Sway Away, the Baffert-trained Midnight Interlude and Flashpoint.

Once again, fans' hopes to see a Triple Crown winner at long last will have to wait until next year.

The last horse to sweep the Derby,

Preakness and Belmont Stakes was Affirmed in 1978. Big Brown was the last to attempt a Triple, in 2008.

Trainer Graham Motion, full of hope and expectation at the start of the race, looked on glumly as Animal Kingdom couldn't catch Shackleford in time.

"He ran huge. I was hoping he was going to get there," said Motion, who had kept the Derby winner at his stable 60 miles away in the Maryland countryside until race morning.

Shaking off his jitters, Shackleford broke alertly, as did another speedy horse, Flashpoint.

"It was fast, but he kind of pulled everyone else out of the race," Romans said.

As they sped along, Animal Kingdom and Dialed In, the second favorite, were running at the back of the 14-horse field.

"I kind of had to hustle him out of there," said John Velazquez, riding Animal Kingdom. "We lost a lot of ground in the first turn."

Velazquez tore through multiple sets of goggles as the dirt kicked back into Animal Kingdom's face, which he clearly didn't like.

"He broke so far back the dirt started hitting him," the jockey said. "He had to make up too much ground."

Castanon was able to get Shackleford to relax into a comfortable rhythm as the pace slowed going down the backstretch. That proved to be a key moment.

"That kind of hurt us," Motion said. "That middle quarter really affected the outcome of the race."

backbreaker."

Harden—the bench star with 23 points in Game 2—started a rally by driving for a layup and then taking an elbow from Chandler to draw a technical foul. That started a burst of eight straight points to get the Thunder within 65-52, the closest they'd been since the end of the first quarter.

Westbrook continued the comeback in the fourth by exploiting a matchup against J.J. Barea to get to the rim and the foul line repeatedly. He had the first eight points in a 10-2 run for Oklahoma City, with Harden's two free throws getting the deficit down to 80-74 with 5:36 to play.

The rally fizzled after that, though.

Westbrook also picked up his fifth technical foul of the postseason for shoving Nowitzki in the back after a third-quarter whistle. He and Chandler are each two shy of earning a one-game suspension.

The Thunder missed 15 of their first 19 shots and committed eight turnovers while Dallas rushed out to a commanding 35-12 lead, finishing the impressive start by scoring the first eight points of the second quarter.

Oklahoma City had its worst first quarter of the season and couldn't get much of anything going through the first 14 minutes, scoring two of its four baskets on tipped-in misses and losing Westbrook briefly after he picked up two fouls in the opening 9 minutes.

"There's no question they started the game really hitting us and knocking us out of our offense," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said. "And we missed a lot of 3s. Those 3s weren't all contested."

Midway through the final turn, Flashpoint gave up, leaving Shackleford as the lone target for the closers. Animal Kingdom started to pick up the pace entering the final turn. Unlike in the Derby, he couldn't find a clear path and Velazquez had to pick his way around traffic to get to the outside.

"I can't believe what Johnny weaved through the last three-eighths of a mile," Motion said. "But he was coming and coming. I'm not sure what is better, if we were that close or to be beaten further."

At the top of the stretch, Animal Kingdom emerged as the main threat to Shackleford. He passed horses in pursuit of the leader while Astrology made a strong run along the rail.

"I felt somebody coming at the sixteenth-pole," Castanon said. "I knew that Animal Kingdom was the only horse who was able to come get me."

He and Astrology had Shackleford in their sights, but the winner refused to give up through the long run to the finish line.

Shackleford's victory, along with his participation in the Fountain of Youth Stakes and a top-three finish in the Florida Derby, netted bonuses for the owners and trainer.

Michael Lauffer and W.D. Cubbedge walked away with \$1.1 million, including the \$600,000 Preakness winner's purse and a \$500,000 bonus. Romans earned \$50,000 in bonus money.

The biggest bonus went unpaid. Dialed In could have won \$5.1 million if he had finished first, including \$5 million for running in the Holy Bull Stakes and winning the Florida Derby.

Cliff Lee haunts his former Rangers



Philadelphia Phillies starting pitcher Cliff Lee throws against the Texas Rangers in the first inning of an interleague baseball game on Saturday, May 21, 2011, in Philadelphia. AP

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Cliff Lee threw eight dominant innings against the team he led to the World Series last year as the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Texas Rangers 2-0 Saturday night.

Lee (3-4) allowed five hits and struck out 10 to earn his first win since April 14. The lefty helped the Rangers capture the first AL pennant in franchise history after joining them last July. But he turned down more money from Texas and the New York Yankees to return to Philadelphia, signing a \$120 million, five-year deal.

Yankees 7, Mets 3

At New York, Mark Teixeira homered for the third straight game, Alex Rodriguez also connected to back A.J. Burnett (5-3) in a victory over the Mets.

Russell Martin and Curtis Granderson also homered as the Yankees evened the Subway Series at one apiece and snapped a six-game slide at home—their longest since 2003.

White Sox 9, Dodgers 2

At Chicago, Mark Buehrle threw seven strong innings to become the career victories leader in interleague play and the Chicago White Sox beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 9-2 on Saturday.

Buehrle (4-3) allowed seven hits and two runs to win for the third time in four starts, giving him his 24th interleague victory —breaking his tie with Jamie Moyer atop the career list. He struck out one, and didn't walk anyone for the second time in three starts.

Blue Jays 7, Astros 5

At Toronto, Jose Bautista hit two home

runs as the Toronto Blue Jays rallied to beat the Houston Astros.

Bautista hit a three-run drive to left off Brett Myers in the sixth and added a solo shot to left against Jose Valdez in the eighth, to increase his major league leading total to 18.

Cardinals 3, Royals 0

At Kansas City, Jake Westbrook pitched eight shutout innings and Matt Holliday broke a scoreless tie with a two-run homer in the eighth, lifting St. Louis over Kansas City.

Westbrook, (4-3) whose longest start this year had been seven innings, gave up four hits, with three walks and three strikeouts while raising his career mark in Kauffman Stadium to 3-0. Kansas City's Nate Adcock went five scoreless innings in his first major league start.

Indians 2, Reds 1

At Cleveland, Travis Buck hit a game-winning two-run homer in the seventh inning to give Josh Tomlin and the Cleveland Indians a victory over the Cincinnati Reds.

Buck connected with two outs against Homer Bailey (3-1), who took a one-hitter into the seventh before the Reds tied their season-high losing streak at four games.

Orioles 8, Nationals 3

At Baltimore, Jeremy Guthrie pitched seven solid innings to win for the first time since opening day, and Nolan Reimold's two-run homer kick-started a four-run third inning as the Baltimore Orioles beat the Washington Nationals.

Guthrie (2-6) allowed two unearned runs in the third inning when first baseman Brandon Snyder booted a ball that Laynce Nix hit. Guthrie al-

lowed five hits, striking out four and walking one.

Marlins 5, Rays 3

At Miami, Javier Vazquez pitched seven shutout innings in his best start of the season to help the Florida Marlins defeat cross-state rival Tampa Bay for the second day in a row.

Vazquez (3-4) had made only one quality start previously this season, but he limited the Rays to three hits and two walks. He had a season-high seven strikeouts and lowered his ERA from 7.55 to 6.41.

Giants 3, Athletics 0

At San Francisco, Tim Lincecum pitched a three-hitter, and the San Francisco Giants beat cross-bay rival Oakland Athletics for their fourth straight victory.

The two-time NL Cy Young Award winner allowed Ryan Sweeney's two-out single in the first before retiring 21 straight batters, leading the Giants past the A's for the second day in a row.

Pirates 6, Tigers 2

At Pittsburgh, Andrew McCutchen went 3 for 4 and scored twice, and Kevin Correia finally won at home as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Detroit Tigers.

Correia (6-4) entered the game winless in three starts at PNC Park this season, but allowed two runs and seven hits over 6 2-3 innings as the surging Pirates captured their fourth straight win.

Brewers 3, Rockies 2

At Milwaukee, Shaun Marcum won his sixth straight decision and Jonathan Lucroy homered, lifting the Milwaukee Brewers over the Colorado Rockies in the lone National League game.

Milwaukee has won nine of 12 over-

all and has the NL's best winning percentage at home at .714 (15-6) after John Axford survived an adventure in the ninth for his 11th save.

Diamondbacks 9, Twins 6

At Phoenix, Kelly Johnson hit a grand slam off Matt Capps in a six-run eighth inning and Arizona rallied to beat Minnesota for its fifth straight victory, its longest streak in two seasons.

Johnson, batting .185 after going 0 for 4 up to that point, lofted the 2-1 pitch from Capps (1-3) deep into the seats in right field, the second slam of his career.

Cubs 9, Red Sox 3

At Boston, Reed Johnson hit a winning, two-run double in an eight-run eighth inning and Chicago, wearing replica uniforms of their last series in Fenway Park in 1918, beat Boston.

The Cubs' last visit to the 99-year-old stadium before Friday night's 15-5 loss was in the World Series 93 years ago. Chicago won the fifth game then, but Boston took the championship by

winning Game 6.

Mariners 4, Padres 0

At San Diego, Rookie Michael Pineda allowed only two hits while striking out nine in seven innings and Mike Wilson had two run-scoring hits to lead Seattle past San Diego.

Pineda (6-2) and relievers David Pauley and Jamey Wright combined on a four-hitter and struck out 13.

Braves 5, Angels 4, 12 innings

At Anaheim, California, Joe Mather hit a three-run homer in the seventh inning and drove in the winning run with a 12th-inning double to lead the Braves past Los Angeles.

Trevor Bell (1-1), the eighth Angels pitcher, retired his first two batters in the 12th before Alex Gonzalez reached on an infield single and took an extra base as rookie second baseman Alex Amarista inadvertently kicked the ball into short left field for his first error in the big leagues. Mather then lifted a 1-0 pitch to right field that fell just inside the foul line.

Toms blows 7-shot lead at Colonial, Wi leads

F O R T W O R T H , T e x a s (A P) — Charlie Wi

began the third round at Colonial just hoping to cut into playing partner David Toms' big lead. Wi certainly never expected to be leading at the end of the day.

Toms blew a seven-stroke margin Saturday, and Wi took the lead with a 32-foot birdie putt on the par-3 16th hole. At 13 under after a 4-under 66, Wi had a one-stroke stroke edge over Toms - and the 54-hole lead on the PGA Tour for the first time in his career.

"I'm very pleasantly surprised. I played really well today and David didn't," Wi said. "It's such a crazy game. I don't know what to say."

Soon after weather delay of 1 hour, 20 minutes, Wi's tee shot at No. 16 landed on the back side of the green and Toms pushed his shot right into the rough. Wi holed the birdie putt before Toms' 16-foot par chance just missed for a two-stroke swing that changed the top of the leaderboard.

"Tough day overall," said Toms, who shot 74 after building his huge lead with bogey-free 62s.

Toms opened with a birdie Saturday, but had three bogeys in a five-hole stretch while Wi got started with consecutive birdies.

Even worse for Toms was a three-putt from 7 1/2 feet for double bogey at No. 14, where Wi chipped to 12 feet to save par before the delay.

"Until then I was still three behind him, so I wasn't even thinking about the lead or anything," Wi said. "Then it's 'Wow, I'm only one shot behind him.' I knew it was getting a lot more interesting than how I envisioned when I started the day."

Wi made his 100th cut in 147 PGA Tour events this weekend, but the 39-year-old South Korean has never won.

The 44-year-old Toms is a 12-time winner, but is looking for his

first victory in more than five years. He is coming off a playoff loss to K.J. Choi last weekend at The Players Championship.

While Toms now has another disappointment to overcome, at least he still has one more round to play at Hogan's Alley.

"I'm right where I set out to be when I started this week," Toms said. "I certainly would like to be sitting here with a 10-stroke lead and trying to break some record or something like that. It's all about getting in position and see how I do. I did well last Sunday with a chance, but didn't quite get there."

John Senden, who began the third round with Wi in a quartet of players seven strokes back, shot even par and was third alone at 9 under. Stuart Appleby (67), Paul Goydos (67) and Mark Wilson (71) were 8 under.

After blasting out of a frontside bunker at the par-4 14th, Toms three-putted for his first double bogey in a stretch of 343 holes at Colonial. That coupled with Wi's impressive up-and-down at the same hole cut the gap to one stroke.

Before Toms and Wi finished No. 15, play was stopped because of an approaching storm. Only a little bit of rain fell before play resumed and both made their par putts.

Toms got to 17 under with his opening birdie Saturday at the 565-yard first hole, chipping from just short of the green to 6 feet. Then came a couple of bad bounces and three bogeys.

His approach at the par-4 second hit on the front of the green but rolled back into the greenside bunker. He blasted to about 19 feet and two-putted for his first bogey in 38 holes.

"From there, he kind of lost the momentum a little bit, but I didn't think I was going to be able to close the gap like I did," Wi said.

After missing the fairway left at No. 3 and hitting a low liner approach that stopped just short of the green, Toms pushed a 5 1/2-foot par chance just right of the hole.

Blue Hauz fends off Konflikt, 77-76

BY WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Blue Hauz extended its winning streak to three after edging Konflikt, 77-76, in the second game in the 2nd QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup last Friday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Blue Hauz started slow and trailed in the first period before Dave Sablan led the team's recovery in the second quarter and secured the win in the fourth quarter from the foul line.

Konflikt built a 26-20 lead in the opening canto after connecting a couple of threes right out of the gate and converting seven free throws late in the period.

Blue Hauz rallied back in the second quarter behind Sablan's 11 points. Sablan outgunned the entire Konflikt crew, 11-10, to lift Blue Hauz to a 44-36 halftime lead.

Then in the third period, Konflikt and Blue Hauz traded baskets, but the latter still led, 60-53. In the final canto, Konflikt buried four treys to mount a comeback, but Blue Hauz sank enough free throws in the

end to seal the victory.

Sablan led all scorers with 28 points, while Konflikt's Jawn Joyner turned in a team-high 25.

In the first game, the Sonics nailed eight three-pointers en route to an 84-66 rout of Prospects.

A generous ball distribution helped the Sonics build a 23-12 margin in the opening period. Eight players scored for the Sonics in the first quarter.

Prospects' Glenn Aquino and Jose Mina then combined for 16 markers in the second quarter to close in, but the Sonics made

three treys to maintain a 40-35 edge at the half.

Prospects remained in contention after the third period, 50-56, but the Sonics had a 28-point explosion in the fourth to pull away.

First Game

Sonics 84 – Bahillo 12, P. Lizama 12, Chan 11, Galarse 11, Wong 11, Pagarao 7, E. Camacho 6, Santos 6, Eclevia 4, Ajoste 2, Castro 2.

Prospects 66 – Jo. Mina 16, Aquino 11, Johaness 9, Jr. Mina 9, Inos 8, Lansang 7, Aughenbaugh 4, Saplan 2.



Scoring by quarters: 23-12, 40-35, 56-50, 84-66.

Second Game

Blue Hauz 77 – Sablan 28, Talania 14, Fitial 11, Aquino 10, Santos 4, Tabora 4, Sacramento 2, Mateo 2, De Vero 2,

Konflikt 76 – Joyner 25, Esdrelon 11, Capalad 11, Mangali 7, Tumaquip 5, Camacho 4, Tamayo 4, Libuw 3, Umali 3, Arreza 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-26, 44-36, 60-53, 77-76.

Blue Hauz's Dave Sablan, right, goes up for a layup against Konflikt's Jawn Joyner during their game in the QQ Cup last Friday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

UR Balls gains seventh win in Chamolinian softball league

BY WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



UR Balls, Braddahs, and Enamo Meta all came out victorious over separate opponents as the Chamolinian Softball Organization's 2nd Budweiser Slow-Pitch Softball League season continued at the Capital Hill Ballfield last Friday.

UR Balls defeated Gorillaz, 12-8, and improved its record to 7-6. Gorillaz fell to a 4-9 card. Braddahs notched its second win in 13 tries and climbed out of last place with a 20-14 upset over new bottom feeder Laolao

Bay (2-12).

Pennant champion Natibu (14-0) stays on top, followed by Phat Boyz (10-1), Man-Amigos (9-3), V-Power (8-4), G-Ballers (7-5), Salty's (7-6), UR Balls, Berdax (6-6), Island Apparel-Xclusive (6-6), Calikano-Grouppers (5-7), Gorillaz, Familia (4-9), Red-Eye (4-10), Braddahs, and Laolao Bay.

In the women's play, Enamo Meta edged NMC Proa, 12-11. Enamo Meta improved to an 8-3 slate, while Proa fell to a 5-6 slate. Sakudi (10-1) still leads the pack with Check It Out (3-7) and T&C Clan (1-10) bringing up the rear.

UR Balls 12, Gorillaz 8

Gorillaz struck first with three

runs in the opening frame off a two-run homer by Ionis Rasa and a solo-shot by Pat Alepuyo, but UR Balls took the lead, 4-3, in the top of the second off five hits, an error, and a fielder's choice.

After a quiet fourth, UR Balls took a 10-8 lead in the fifth inning. UR Balls' Vince Cepeda cracked a solo homer and the other runs came off an error, a two-RBI single by Audi Maratita, and a base rip by Josh Arriola.

Gorillaz managed four runs off a two-RBI single by Rasa and a two-run homer by Ton Tenorio in the bottom frame. Both teams came up empty in the sixth and UR

Ball's Oliver Secharmidal hammered a two-run bomb in the final frame.

Braddahs 20, Laolao Bay 14

Laolao Bay scored a pair of runs in the first inning off three hits and a walk, but Braddahs got a run back in the top of the third off an RBI single by Austin Iguel.

Then both teams mustered seven runs apiece in the third frame. Braddahs drew a two-RBI single from Jose Iguel, a three-run blast from Nunu Kapileo, a base rip from Izay Falig, and an error. Laolao answered with a two-RBI base knock by Miko Martin, a base hit by TJ

Cruz, an error, and a two-RBI triple by Dodet Feliciano.

Braddahs took a 10-9 lead in the fourth off three hits, added another run off an error in the fifth, and one more in the sixth when Roger Manlik drove in Austin Iguel. Braddahs piled on eight more runs in the last inning.

WOMEN'S

Enamo Meta 12, NMC Proa 11

Enamo Meta managed a 5-4 lead after the opening frame.

NMC Proa broke the ice with four runs off a leadoff

triple, five hits, and a fielder's choice, but Enamo answered in the bottom frame with a handful of runs off an RBI walk and a pair of two-RBI base hits by Julie Guerrero and Jen Teigita.

The count shifted to 11-9 in favor of Proa in the fourth inning off four runs in the top half.

Enamo added a run in both the fifth and sixth innings and held Proa scoreless for the remainder of the contest. Then in the bottom of the seventh with the bases loaded and two outs, Enamo mustered the game-winning run off an error.

JONES

From Page 28

In the boys U15 singles, the field was down to only four players after the games over the weekend. Marching into the semifinals were Carl Dela Cruz, Chris Park, Moris Villanueva, and Chris Cajigan.

Dela Cruz was seeded first in the U15 and drew a bye in the first round. He then

faced Dylan Ackerman in the quarterfinals on Saturday and won, 6-2, 6-4, to make it to the Final Four.

Chris Park took the No. 3 seeding and prevailed over Bob Kim, 6-1, 6-2, and Colin Ramsey, 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, to set a semis tiff against Dela Cruz.

In the lower half of the draw, the No. 2 seed Cajigan also gained a bye and topped Seiya Eda, 6-2, 7-6, to advance to the semis against Villanueva.

Villanueva was unseeded and defeated Aaron Lee, 6-1, 6-0, and Daniel Lim, 6-1, 6-0, to gain a semis ticket.

The boys U10 singles had also only four players left standing. The list includes Steve Goodwin, Mondo Taniguchi, James Hourican, and Robbie Schorr.

The top-seeded Goodwin drew a bye in the first round and beat Steven An, 8-2, to challenge Taniguchi in the

semis. Taniguchi downed Tony Atalig, 8-4, and A. J. Hudkins, 8-5.

Hourican notched a semis tickets after slipping past Logan Mister, 8-1, and Joshua Abagan, 8-2. Schorr took the fourth semis slot after winning over Cole Chambers, 8-2, and Vincent Tudela, 9-7.

Meanwhile, results of the girls competition will be published in *Saipan Tribune's* Tuesday edition.

NORFOLK

From Page 28

tions of Nauru, Northern Marianas, and Vanuatu at the Pacific Games meeting in September. Norfolk Island sends its best wishes to the candidate nations for what promises to be an exciting competition," he added in his email.

The winning bid will be decided during the 2012 Pacific Games in Noumea, New Caledonia in September. The CNMI is considering Vanuatu its toughest competitor in the race for the hosting rights of the Games, while Nauru is the dark

horse among the three nations.

The Commonwealth will be sending a group composed of sports and government officials to New Caledonia to present the CNMI's bid. The CNMI is hoping that the Pacific Games Council and those attending the general assembly will lean toward the nation that has yet to host the Mini Games. Vanuatu hosted the competition in 1993, while the Games went to Norfolk Islands in 2001. The Commonwealth is also hoping that the CNMI's lower per diem of \$30 will convince members to award the Games to the islands. Vanuatu is offering a \$50 per diem.

SOUTHERN

From Page 28

School sits at third with 39 points. The Dolphins earned five points against the leading squad, while Kagman edged Southern by only a

point, 19-18.

Southern went to work early and won the opening 1,000m prelim heat with a time of SSHS 6:07.48. The the Ayuyus (6:24.40) prevailed in the battle for second place by a hair over MHS (6:24.50).

MHS regrouped and ruled the

500m-prelim at 2:55.03, with Southern (2:57.13) and Kagman (2:58.83) hot on the chase.

The Dolphins trudged on and topped the 1,000m final with a time of 6:08.90, way ahead of Southern (6:17.31) and Kagman (6:29.24).

Then Kagman stepped up big

in the 500m sprint final with its 2:57.72 to beat MHS (2:58.45) and Southern (3:02.20).

Meanwhile, the MISO canoe race season concludes this Saturday with the 1,500m and 500m preliminary and finals events, which are worth double the points.

MP UNITED

From Page 28

The champion squad is composed of Seoung Joon Lee, Dae Min Jeon, Greg Kim, Ji Kyun Kim, Moon Bin Hong, Stacy Macaranas, So Hyuk Park, Darren Hocog, Jin Han Yoon, Bruce Li, Hunter Thorpe, Vince Palacios, Jin Jeon, Peter Cho, Joshua Borja, Richard Wang, Taek Ham Yoon, Christopher Camacho, Andres Halaby, Abel Pellegrino, Kai Kushihiata, Yong Jun Jeon, and Gordon Coelho.

Finishing second to MP United was Paire Football

Club, which concluded the season with a 6-2-1 record. Paire won its last game of the season against Matansa, 2-1.

Zhi Peng Lin and Timothy Tawanpi scored one goal each for Paire, while In Bum Choo made the lone goal for Matansa.

In nine games, Paire collected 20 points and 17 goals and gave up 11. Matansa dropped to a 2-2-5 slate, scoring only 12 goals and giving up 18.

Over at the Hopwood Junior High School Field, Matansa closed out the girls U15 season with a 2-0 win over Tan Holdings.

Matansa finished the three-round robin league with a 7-1-

1 card and 22 points to rule the league for the fifth straight time.

The eventual champion collected 23 goals and gave up only five with 12 of them coming from Tahlia Hideo and six from Andrea Camacho. Camacho scored in their last game against Tan Holdings, while Natasha Quitugua also found the back of the net last Saturday.

Joining Hideo, Camacho, and Quitugua on the team are Nichelle Sablan, Vanessa Gramlich, Jace Pineda. Joy Kimiko Tenorio, Teisha Camacho, Kate-lynn Delos Reyes, Mary Ann Waing, Patrishia Mae Echavez, Tiana Ranjo, Almina Deleon

Guerrero, and Egshiglen Tsa Tsrar. Lindsay Davis is Matansa's coach, winning her second crown with the team. John Ravell gave Matansa its first three titles.

Despite failing to finish the season undefeated, Davis was very proud of the team's achievement.

"Losing is part of the game. It makes you play better. The girls just shook it off after losing to Paire and went back to work to finish strong," Davis said.

Paire finished second with its 4-2-3 card despite a 0-2 defeat at the hands of MP United, which placed third with a 3-4-2 mark. Tan Holdings had a 0-1-8 slate.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS					Central Division				
AMERICAN LEAGUE					St. Louis	27	20	.574	—
East Division					Cincinnati	25	21	.543	1 1/2
	W	L	Pct	GB	Milwaukee	23	23	.500	3 1/2
New York	24	20	.545	—	Pittsburgh	22	23	.489	4
Tampa Bay	25	21	.543	—	Chicago	20	24	.455	5 1/2
Boston	24	21	.533	1/2	Houston	16	30	.348	10 1/2
Toronto	23	22	.511	1 1/2	West Division				
Baltimore	20	24	.455	4	San Francisco	26	19	.578	—
Central Division					Colorado	23	21	.523	2 1/2
Cleveland	28	15	.651	—	Arizona	22	23	.489	4
Detroit	22	23	.489	7	Los Angeles	21	26	.447	6
Kansas City	22	23	.489	7	San Diego	19	27	.413	7 1/2
Chicago	21	26	.447	9	Yesterday's Games				
Minnesota	15	29	.341	13 1/2	Toronto 7, Houston 5				
West Division					Chicago White Sox 9, L.A. Dodgers 2				
Texas	23	23	.500	—	St. Louis 3, Kansas City 0				
Los Angeles	23	24	.489	1/2	Cleveland 2, Cincinnati 1				
Oakland	22	24	.478	1	Baltimore 8, Washington 3				
Seattle	21	24	.467	1 1/2	Florida 5, Tampa Bay 3				
NATIONAL LEAGUE					Pittsburgh 6, Detroit 2				
East Division					Chicago Cubs 9, Boston 3				
Philadelphia	28	17	.622	—	Milwaukee 3, Colorado 2				
Florida	26	18	.591	1 1/2	N.Y. Yankees 7, N.Y. Mets 3				
Atlanta	26	22	.542	3 1/2	San Francisco 3, Oakland 0				
New York	22	23	.489	6	Philadelphia 2, Texas 0				
Washington	21	24	.467	7	Atlanta 5, L.A. Angels 4, 12 innings				
					Seattle 4, San Diego 0				
					Arizona 9, Minnesota 6				

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekend Sports

Saipan Little League champions crowned

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The week belonged to the Docomo Aces, the Tan Siu Lin-Rep. DLGuerrero-Rep. Ramon S. Basa Kagman Lions, and the Juan S. Tenorio Jets who clinched the championship in their respective divisions.

The Aces edged the Island Apparel-Kagman Mobil Station Hustlers in the finals, 4-3,

to nail the Big League crown at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield. The Lions also played at the "Tan Ko" field and downed the Tan Holdings Fielders, 5-3, to notch the Senior League title. Over at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield, the Jets shut out the Bank Of Saipan Red Sox, 9-0, to win the Majors championship.

Also ruling their respective competitions last week were TKK 2, Natibu, Marion McK-

enzie, Diane Camacho, Joe Sto. Domingo, and Matansa Football Club.

TKK 2 won the pennant in the Belau softball league after beating the Tigers, 11-10. Still in softball, Natibu clinched the pennant in the Chamolinian league after improving to a 14-0 mark, following an 18-14 triumph over Man Amigos.

In the Saipan Bowling Association's May roll-offs, McKenzie took the Fiji Prince of the

Lane title, while Sto. Domingo and Camacho reigned in the Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes.

Matansa secured the girls U15 title in the NMIFA youth league after downing Paire Football Club last week, 1-0. Still in football, NMIFA continued with its regular season games in the boys U15 and U18 divisions, the men's league, and the women's competition.

In basketball at the Civic

Center court, the Saipan Marianas Lions Club-Civic Center Inter-Color Friendship Basketball League was down to four teams last week. Making it to the semifinals were Team Morales, C-GOM, Team Joey, and Armatech.

Over at the Garapan Basketball Court for the QQ Cup, Smart Cagers, Ferrera Builders, Blue Hauz, and Konflikt prevailed in their separate matches. At the Gualo Rai court for the

Miller Lite caging, Cargo Express-Sea Bridge improved to a 6-0 record, while Hoopaholics, Mobil, Archers, and Blue Hauz also won.

In MISO canoe racing, Saipan Southern High School continued to lead both the boys and girls division.

In athletics, McDonald's recognized the 12 athletes who stood out during the 2011 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships.



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

The Aces' Alonzo Masga rips the go ahead single in the bottom of the sixth inning of their Big League game against the Hunters at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield. The Aces clinched the Big League title against the Hustlers.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

King of the Lanes winner Joe Sto. Domingo, left, and runner-up Raymond Zapanta show their prizes.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Matansa Football Club striker, right, hits the ball against a Tan Holdings defender during their girls U15 game in the NMIFA league at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

May Queen of the Lanes Diane Camacho is flanked by runners-up Mel Regis and Lala Taitano during the awards presentation at the Capitol Bowling Center.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Armotech's Levie Ortiz, right, pulls up for a jumper against Olivos' James Sablan during their playoff game in the Lions Club caging at the Civic Center Basketball Court last week.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Northern Marianas Athletics secretary general Robin Sapong, left, joins McDonald's store manager Marcia Ayuyu in the presentation of trophies to the outstanding athletes in the 2011 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships.



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

Members of the Jets and their coaching staff pose for a group photo after winning the Majors championship against the Red Sox at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

Konflikt's Gino Libuw goes right at a Mobil double team during their game in the QQ Cup last Monday at the Garapan Basketball Court.



PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports



PAGE 27

28 MONDAY, MAY 23, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Jones vs Park in U18 finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rafael Jones moved a win away from defending his boys U18 singles title after beating Thea Minor in their semis game in the 2011 DFS Junior Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

Jones swept Minor, 6-2, 6-4, to gain the first finals berth in the boys U18 singles and make it to the championship match of the age group for the third straight year. The defending champion will be facing Daniel Park in the finals after the latter defeated Christian Miller in the other semis tiff yesterday, 7-6, 6-1. Jones, who lost to Woo Suk Chang in 2009, defeated Miller in last year's three-hour championship game, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6.

A 6-1, 6-1 victory over Clay McCullough-Stearns last Saturday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts advanced Jones to the semifinals. Minor had a tougher first round foe in Amami Sakano, as the former needed three

sets and more than three hours to pull off a 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 triumph at PIC.

In the lower half of the boys U18 draw, Park booked a semis ticket after a 6-1, 2-0 (retired) win over Jake Lee at PIC last Saturday, while Miller also swept Angelo Jones at the AMP courts, 6-1, 6-2.



The boys U18 finals and the consolation game will be played next weekend.

In the boys U12 singles, it will be Michael Ren versus Luther Lizama. Ren edged Alex Park in three sets, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4, to move into the finals against Lizama, who shut out Michael Jones in the other semis game, 6-0, 6-0. Lizama also won over Clayton Izuka, 6-4, 7-6.

See JONES on Page 26



Daniel Park returns to Christian Miller during the second set of their semis game in the boys U18 singles division of the DFS tournament yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United, Matansa get championship trophies

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



MP United and Matansa were formally hailed champions in the boys U18 and girls U15 divisions of the 2011 NMIFA Youth Spring League as the season concluded last Saturday.

MP United was presented

the U18 championship trophy after completing the three-round robin competition with an unbeaten 7-2-0 win-draw-loss record. The eventually champion nailed its seventh victory after winning via forfeit against Independents at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. In nine games, MP United earned 23 points, scored 23 goals, and gave up only 12.

See MP UNITED on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members and coaches of MP United pose with their championship trophy during the victory celebration at Bobby Cadillacs last Saturday.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Matansa Football Club coach Linday Davis, standing right, joins her U15 players for a team photo during the presentation of the championship trophy at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Southern paddlers stay on top

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
Walter_stuherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Saipan Southern High School boys and girls teams kept the lead in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization's outrigger canoe competition after the penultimate

races last Saturday at the Kilili Beach Park.

After three events, the Lady Rays hold a 53-44 lead over Mt. Carmel School, while Marianas High School is close behind at third with 41 points. MCS gained a point against Southern, while MHS outscored the Lady Rays, 21-19, after last Saturday's races.

The Lady Knights won the neck and neck 1,000m preliminary race with a time of 7:21.29, beating Southern (7:22.05) and MHS (7:22.44).

In the finals, MHS crossed the finish line first by a nose, timing in at 7:17.44 against Mt. Carmel's 7:17.57 and Southern's 7:45.15.

The Lady Dolphins ran

away with the best time in the 500m-prelim at 3:16.67, edging MCS (3:21.75) and Southern (3:23.60). In the finals, The Lady Manta Rays recovered from a third place finish in the preliminary race after clocking in at 3:19.90. Mt Carmel and MHS posted 3:25.07 and 3:27.30, respectively.

In the boys division, Southern went up against MHS, 56-47, while Kagman High

See SOUTHERN on Page 26



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

Saipan Southern High School's Lady Manta Rays inch closer to victory lane in the 500m sprint finals last Saturday at the Kilili Beach Park.

Norfolk Island pulls out Mini Games bid

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The battle for the hosting rights of the 2017 Pacific Mini Games is now down to three nations after Norfolk Island withdrew its bid due to financial constraints.

The CNMI, Vanuatu, and Nauru are the only three countries left to fight for the hosting rights of the quadrennial competition.

Norfolk Island Pacific Games Association secretary general Milton Bradley informed PGA member-countries of the sad

news through an email, citing financial problem that the association is facing as the main reason for the pullout.

"It is with much regret that with our current financial position and after full consultation with our government, the Norfolk Island Pacific Games Association wishes to advise that we have sadly withdrawn our bid for the 2017 Pacific Mini Games," Bradley said.

"We therefore look forward to the presentations from the remaining Pacific Games Na-

See NORFOLK on Page 26